



48 PAGES--EVERY WEEK!

ACTION

COMICS WEEKLY

NO. 620
\$1.50
CAN \$2.00
U.K. 60p

THE SECRET SIX - The MISSION FALLS APART!



PLUS:

DEADMAN • SUPERMAN
BLACKHAWK • WILD DOG
GREEN LANTERN

GREEN LANTERN[®]

LAST GASP!

HE'S
DOWN!

HE'S
DIRTY!

HE'S
DEAD!

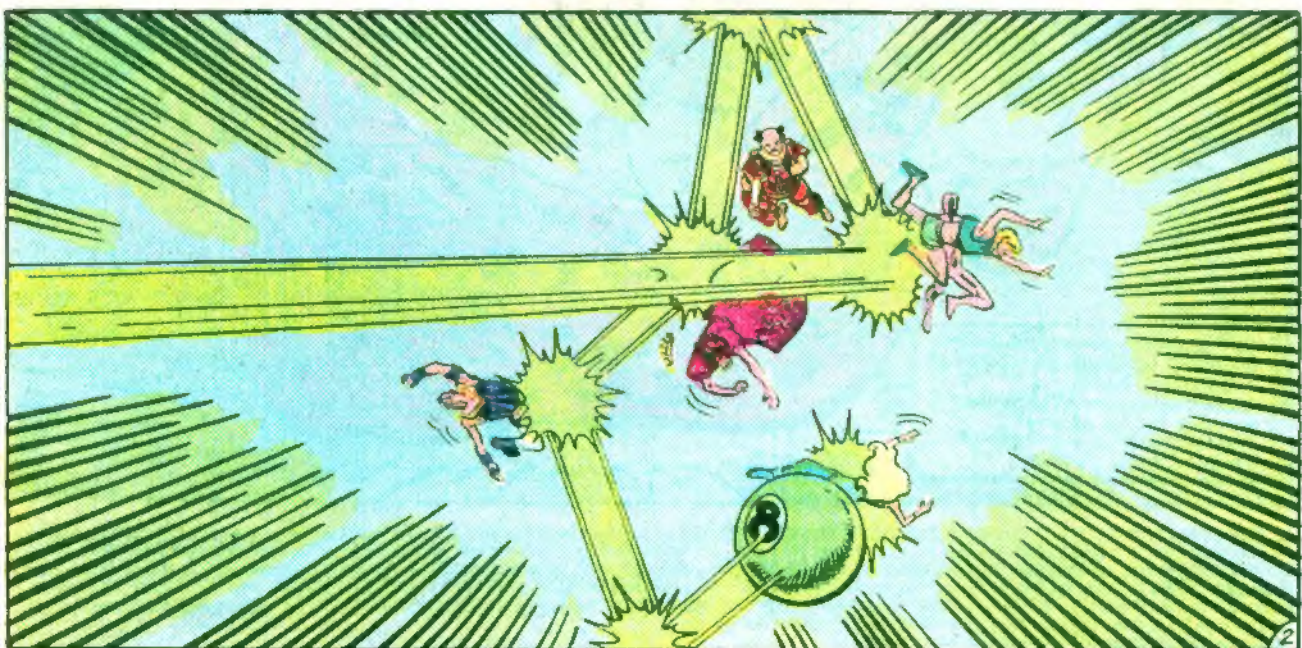
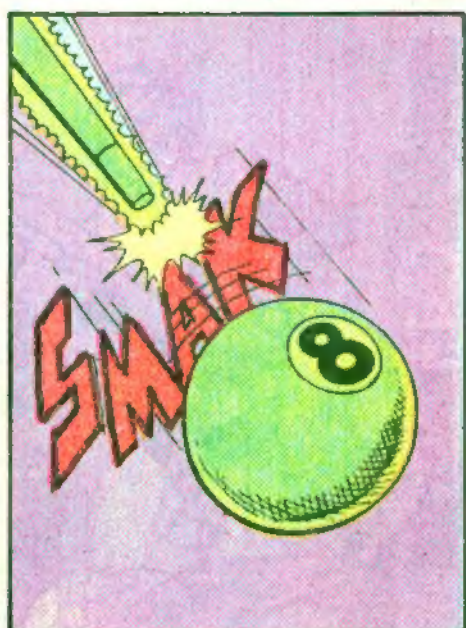
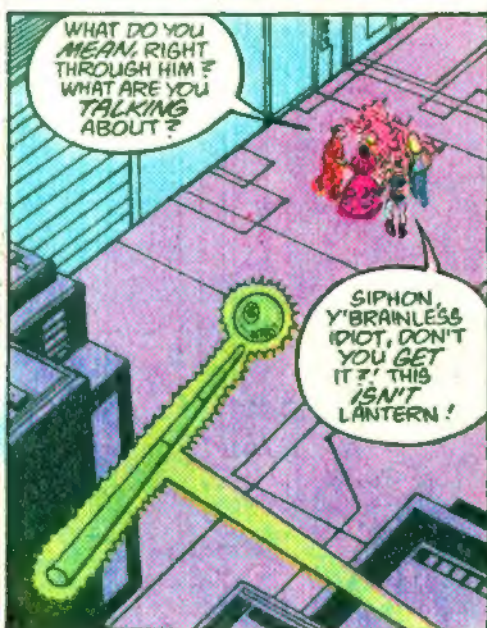
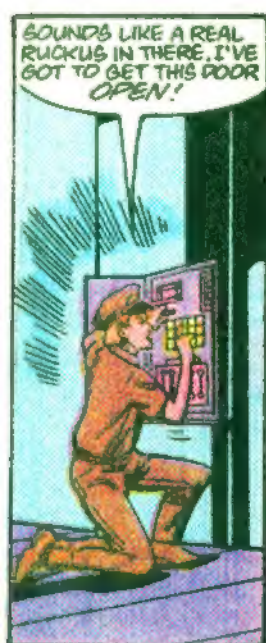
BOYS AND GIRLS,
WE KILLED GREEN
LANTERN!

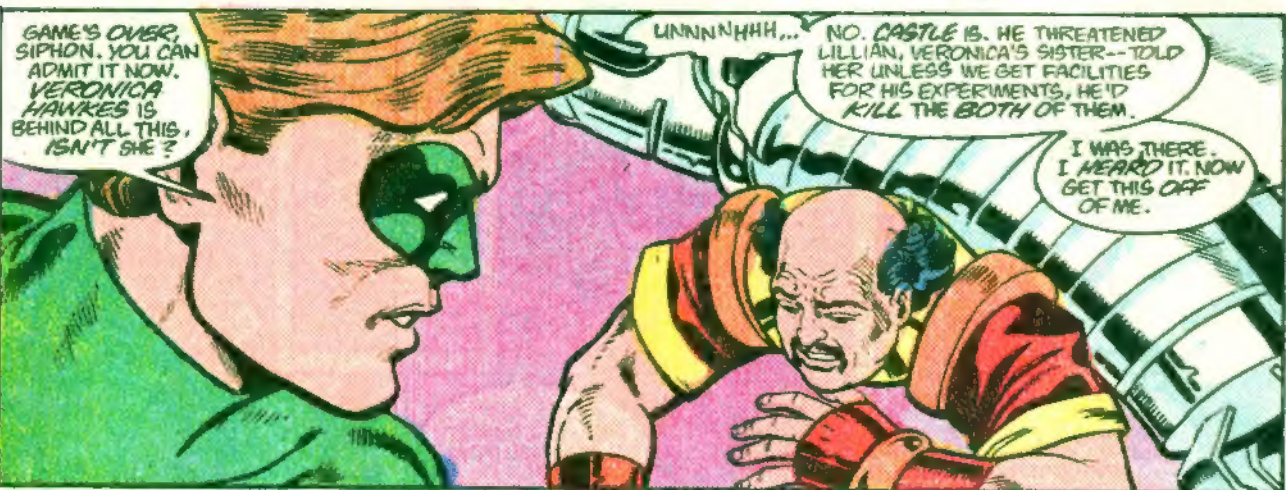
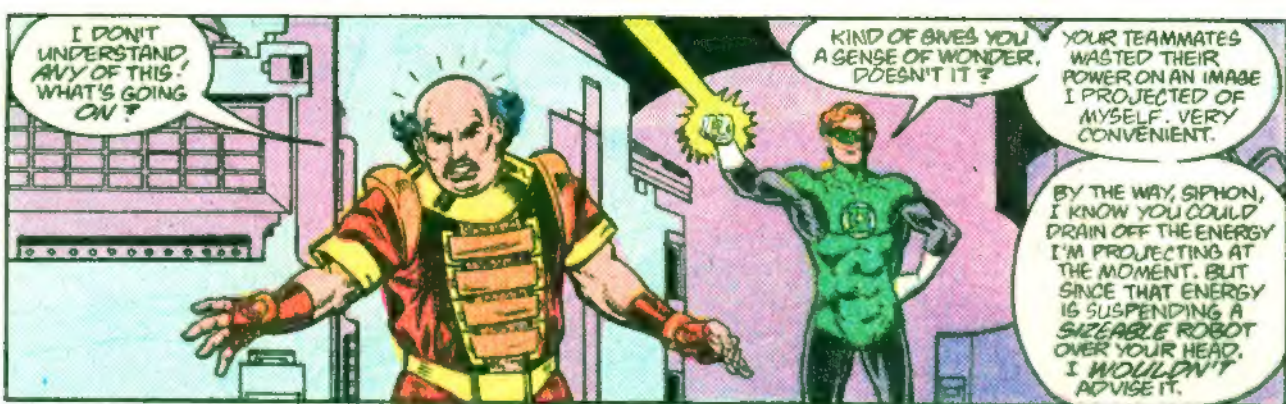
WHAT'S THIS
"WE" STUFF?
BESIDES, HE MAY
NOT BE DEAD
YET.



PETER DAVID • SCRIPT/CO-PLOT
RICHARD HOWELL • ART/CO-PLOT
ARNE STARR • INKER
ALBERT DE GUZMAN • LETTERER
ANTHONY TOLLIN • COLORIST
DAN RASPLER • ASST. EDITOR
DENNY O'NEIL • EDITOR

6-4089





CASTLE'S DOING IT AGAIN! USING THAT CRAZY TRANSPORT POWER OF HIS!

WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE HE TRADES PLACES WITH. HE'S NOT GETTING AWAY THIS TIME.

HOW'D I GET HERE? WHERE'S THE XEROX?

YOU!
YOU SET ME UP!
THAT'S WHAT PLAN OMEGA WAS! IF THINGS WENT SOUR, THE OTHERS WERE SUPPOSED TO TURN ME IN, LEAVING YOU FREE AND CLEAR--AS IF YOU WEREN'T BEHIND ALL OF THIS! AND YOU'D SPRING THEM LATER!

VERY GOOD, CASTLE. FIGURE IT OUT ALL BY YOURSELF?
I DON'T CARE HOW TIRED I AM FROM PORTING...
I STILL GOT ENOUGH STRENGTH TO TAKE YOU DOWN WITH US!

YOU...
BLAM

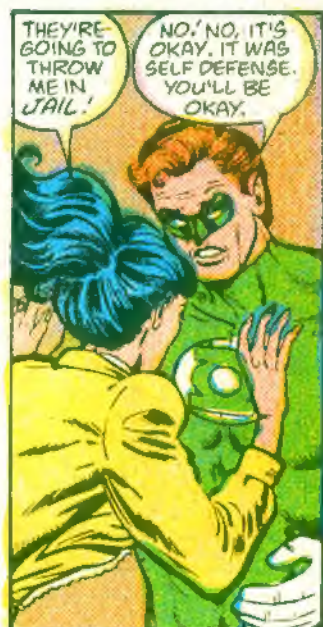
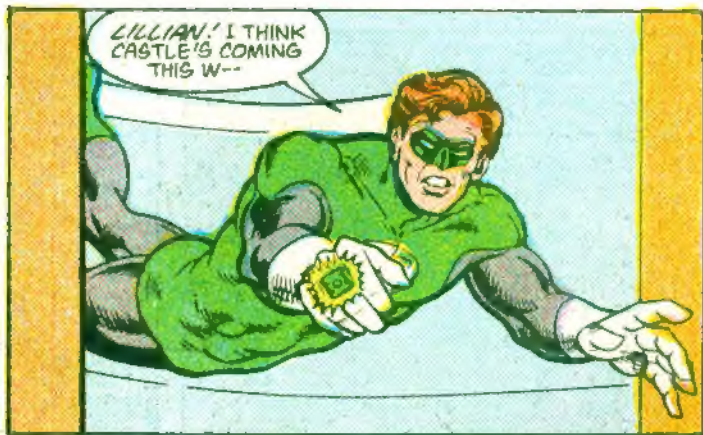
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, CASTLE. WE HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION ON YOUR PROCEDURES FOR CREATING SUPER-BEINGS...

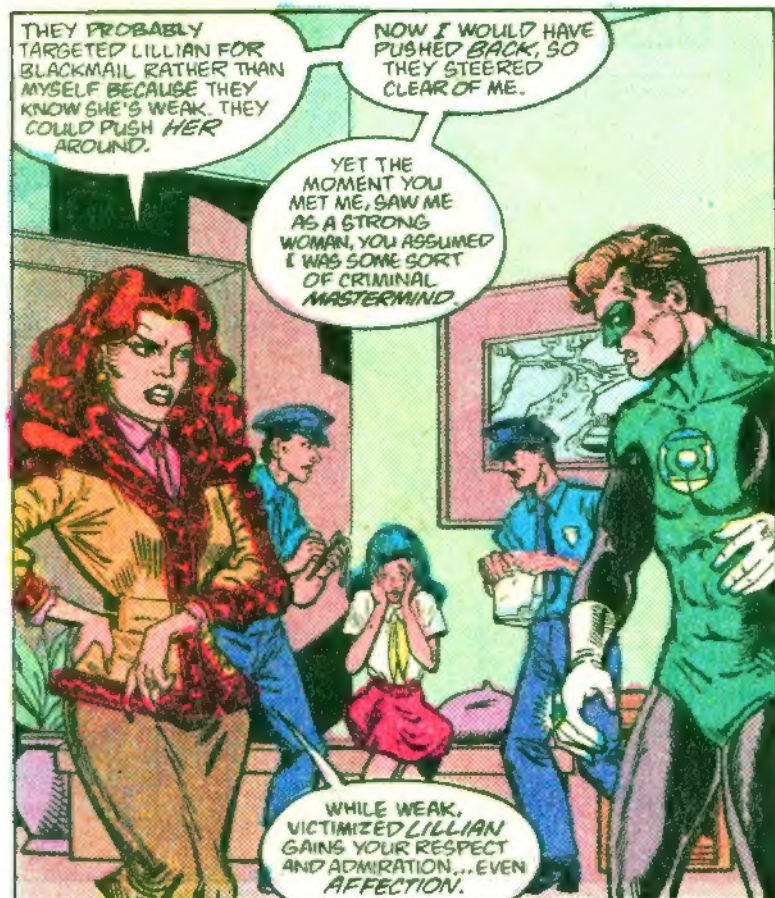
...SAFELY TUCKED AWAY IN OUR COMPUTERS.

SO WHY ON EARTH WOULD WE NEED YOU? YOU'RE REDUNDANT.

I NEVER LIKED YOU ANYWAY, YOU OBNOXIOUS LITTLE MAN.

DO YOU FINALLY GET IT, CASTLE?







IT'S NOT.

IF YOU WERE A BIT MORE MATURE, I MIGHT FIND MYSELF ATTRACTED TO YOU. AS YOU ARE...

...YOU'D PROBABLY PREFER LILLIAN. OR PERHAPS SOME WIDE-EYED TEENAGER.



MY, MY. I THINK I STRUCK A NERVE.



AND YOU, LILLIAN, SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME ABOUT CASTLE'S THREATS. NOT KEPT IT TO YOURSELF.

I'M SORRY, VERONICA. HE SAID IF I WENT TO YOU HE'D--



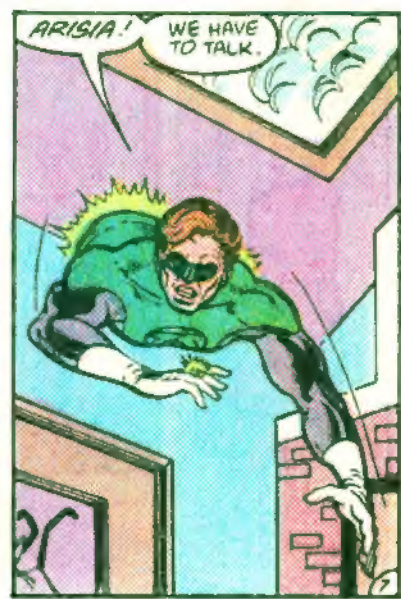
DON'T LISTEN TO ANYONE ELSE EXCEPT ME. AND DON'T SNEAK AROUND. COME TO ME IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM.

ALWAYS REMEMBER WHO'S RUNNING THIS COMPANY.

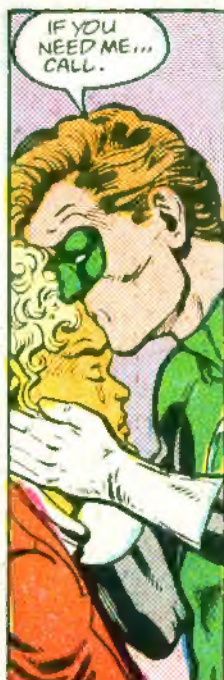
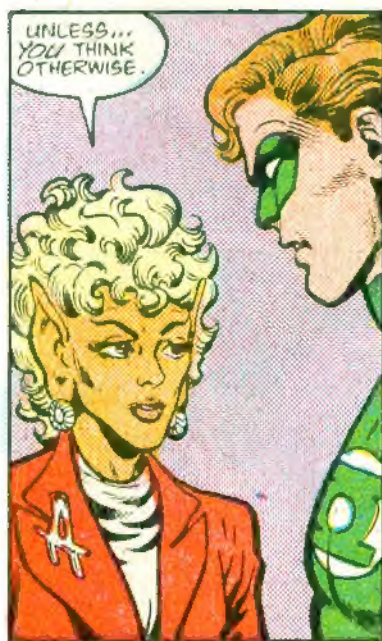
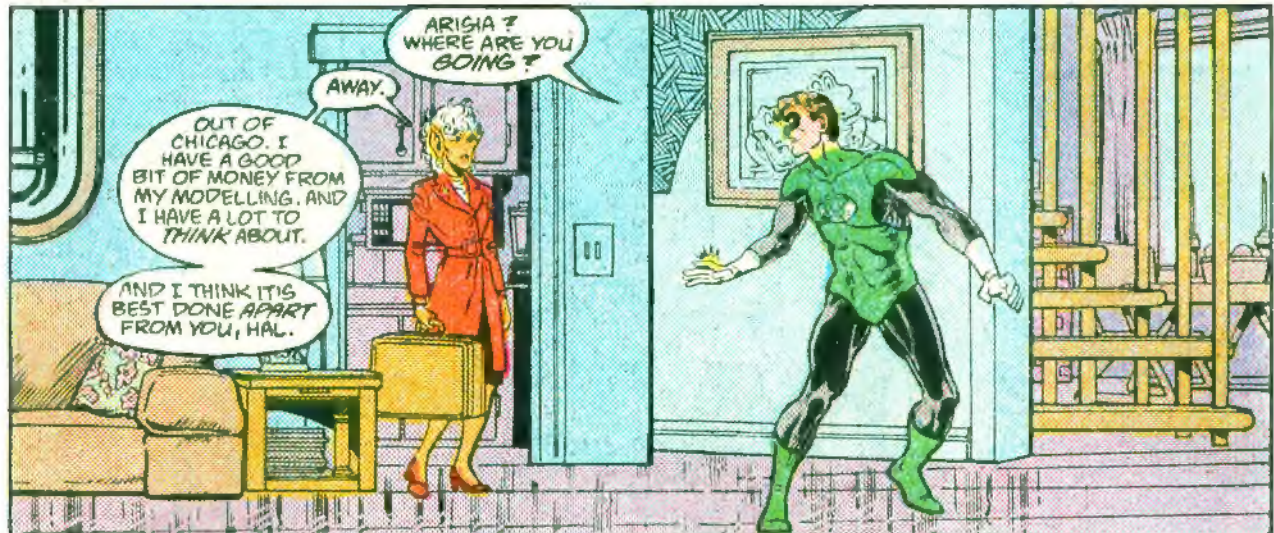
OH, I WILL, VERONICA.



I ALWAYS REMEMBER.



ARISIA! WE HAVE TO TALK.



WILD DOG™

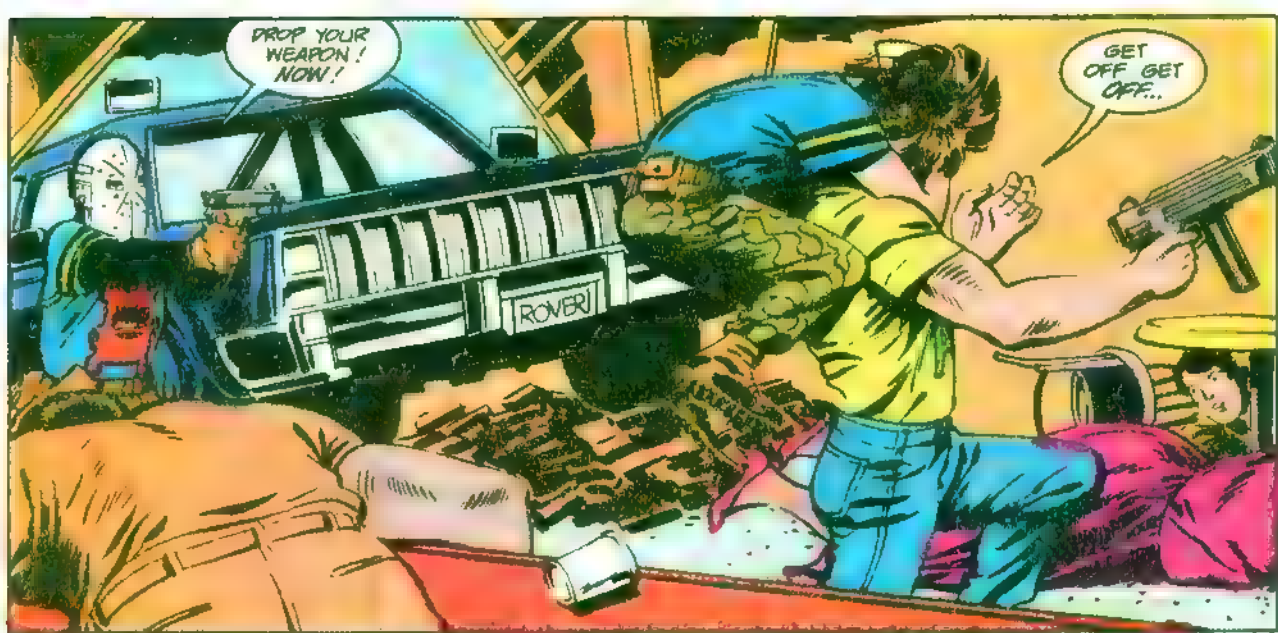
FATAL DISTRACTION



CHAPTER SIX TAILED!

MAX COLLINS · TERRY BEATTY
WRITER · CO-CREATOR · BREAKDOWNS
DICK ROCKWELL · JOHN NYBERG
GUEST PENCILLER · INKER
TIM HARKINS · CARL GAFFORD
LETTERER · COLORIST
BRIAN AUGUSTYN
EDITOR





YOU TAKE YOUR
NAME FROM THE
HISBIE CAVING!

PUT THE
KID DOWN AND
PUT THE GUN
DOWN OR
YOU'RE GOING
DOWN

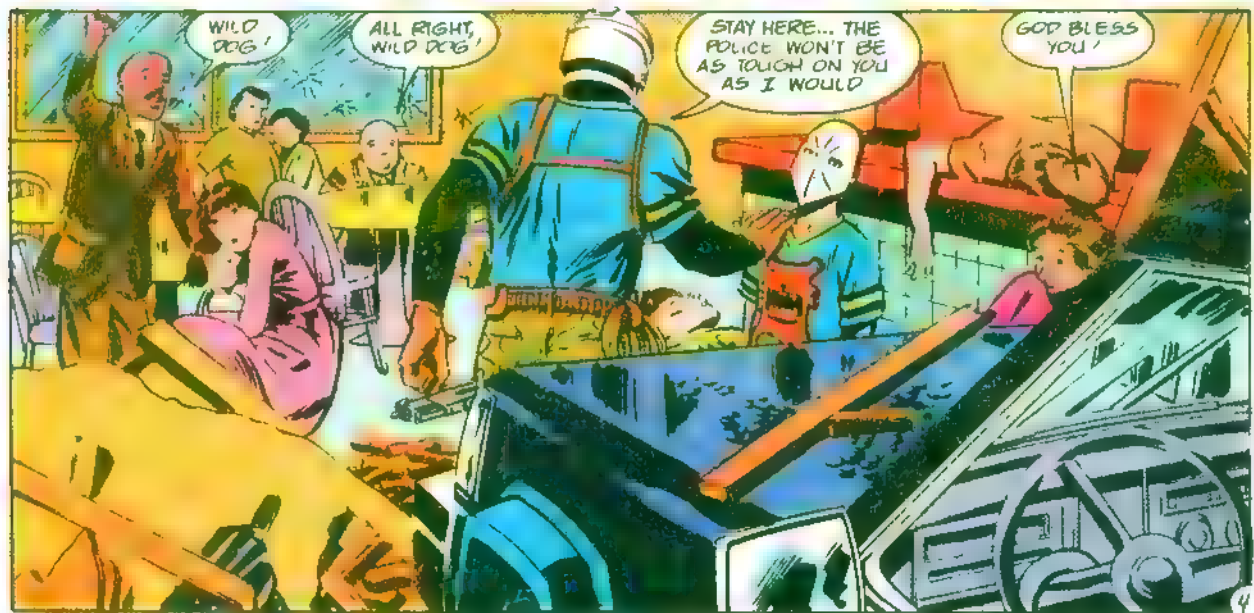
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA THE
TERRIBLE EXPERIMENTS
THEY PERFORM ON DOGS
CATS... MONKEYS ? IN THE
NAME OF SCIENCE ? IN
THE NAME OF MAN ? YOU
GO AND TELL THEM WHY
I DID THIS.

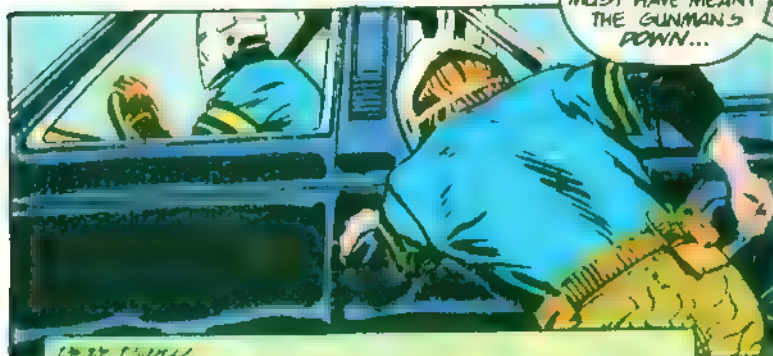
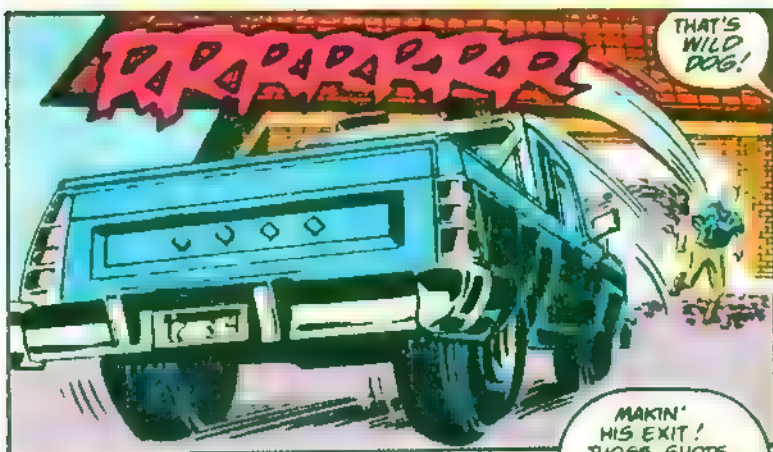
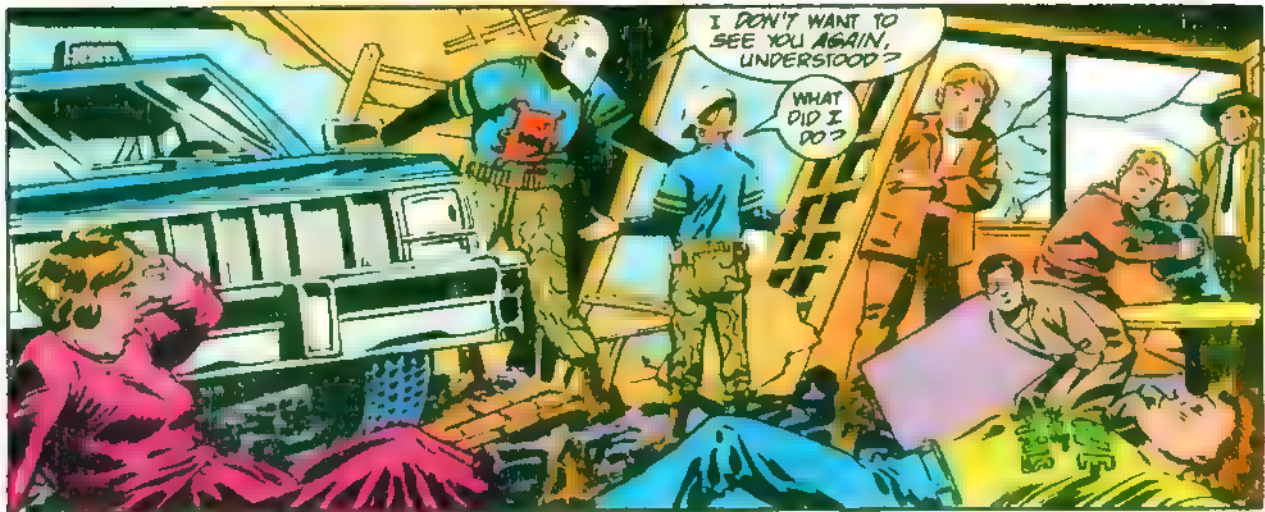
BARRIER

I WILL - IF YOU
PUT THE KID DOWN
AND THE GUN
DOWN THIS IS YOUR
LAST WARNING

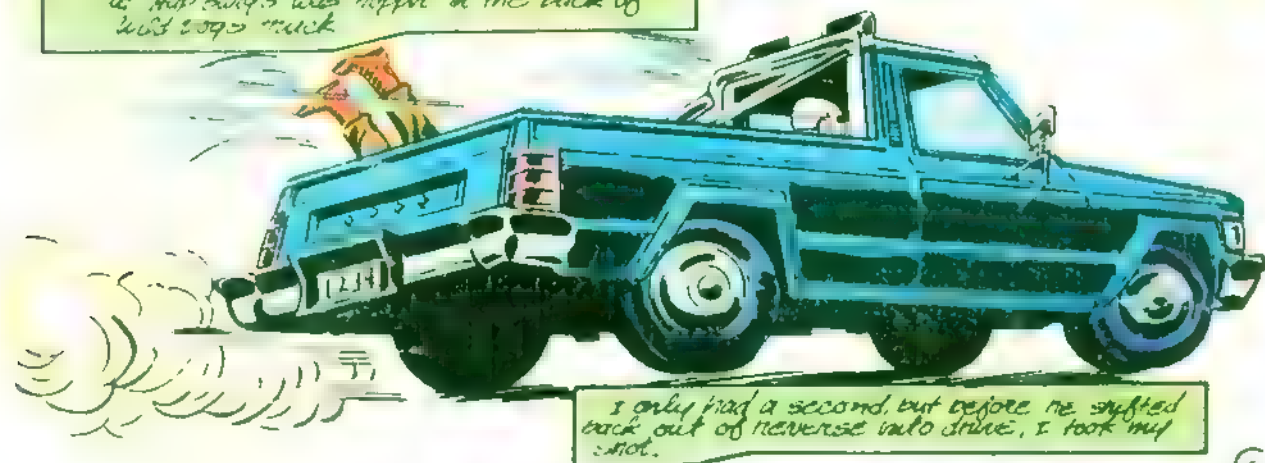
YOW!

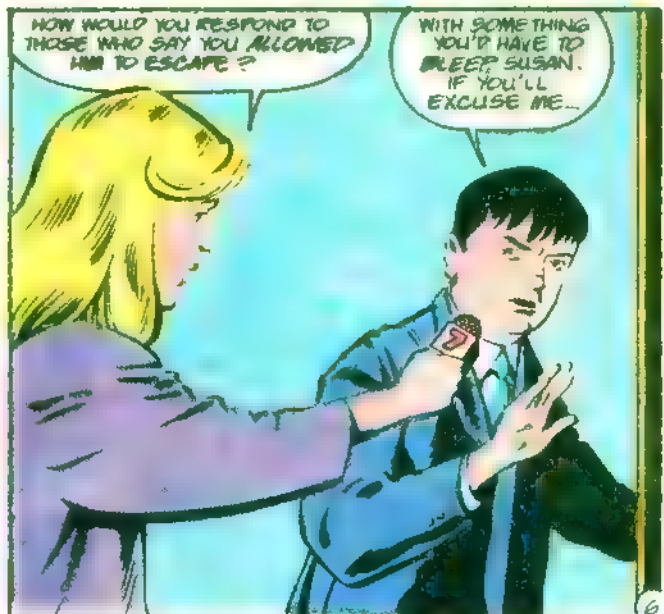
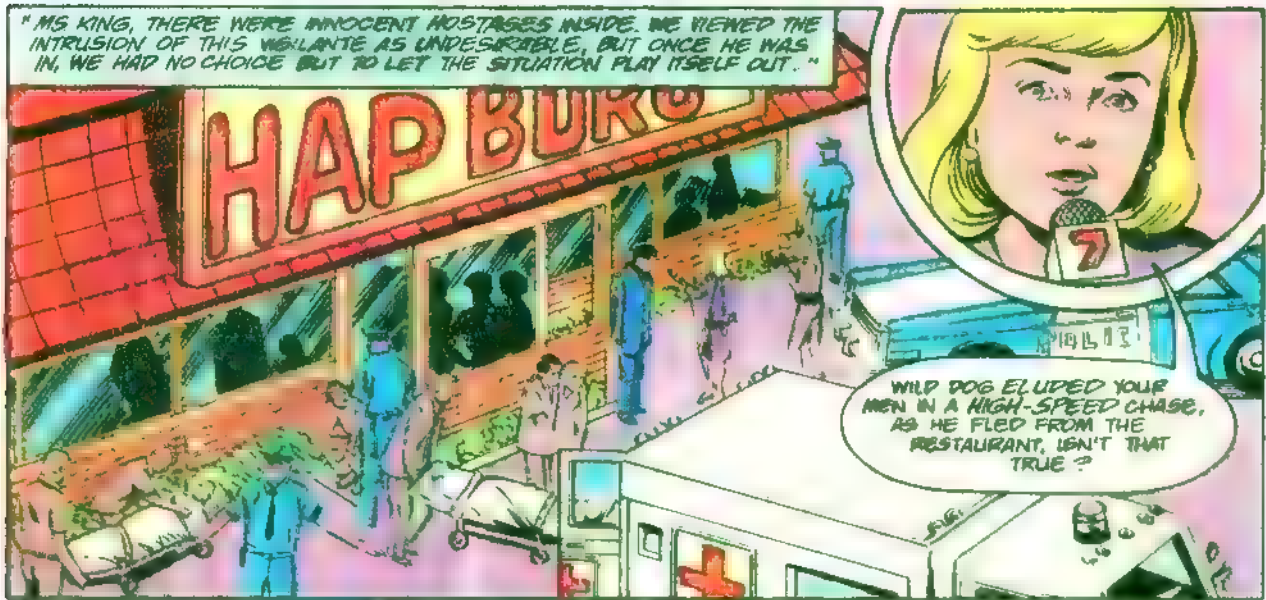
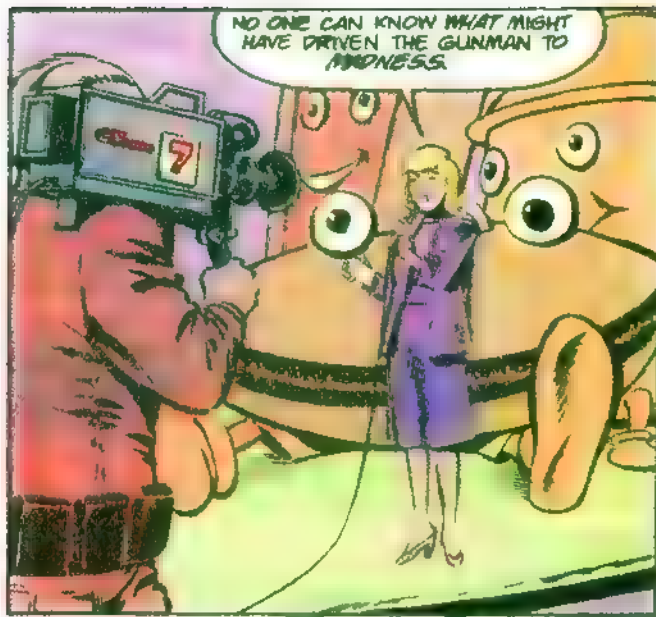
HAVE
IT YOUR
WAY

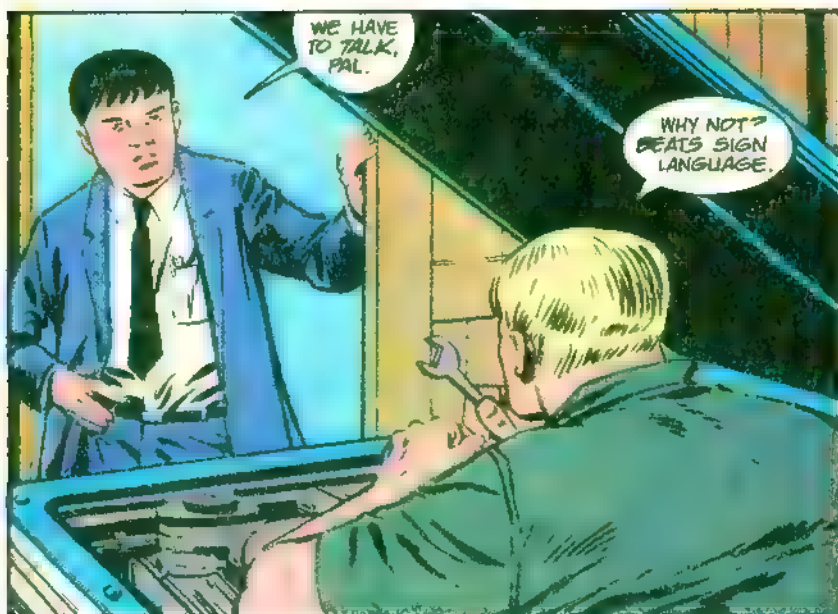




That's the most exciting thing about the shoot out at his house was happen in the back of his dog's truck





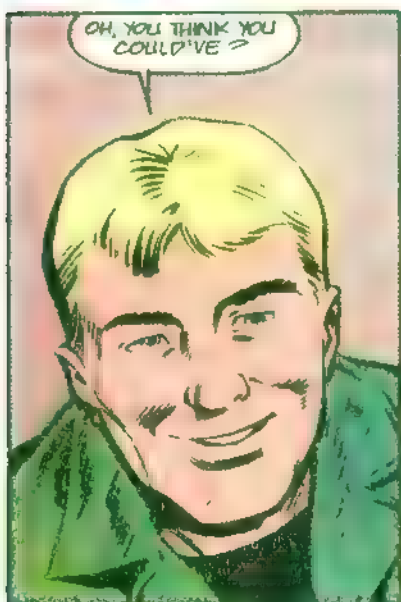


WE HAVE
TO TALK,
PAL.

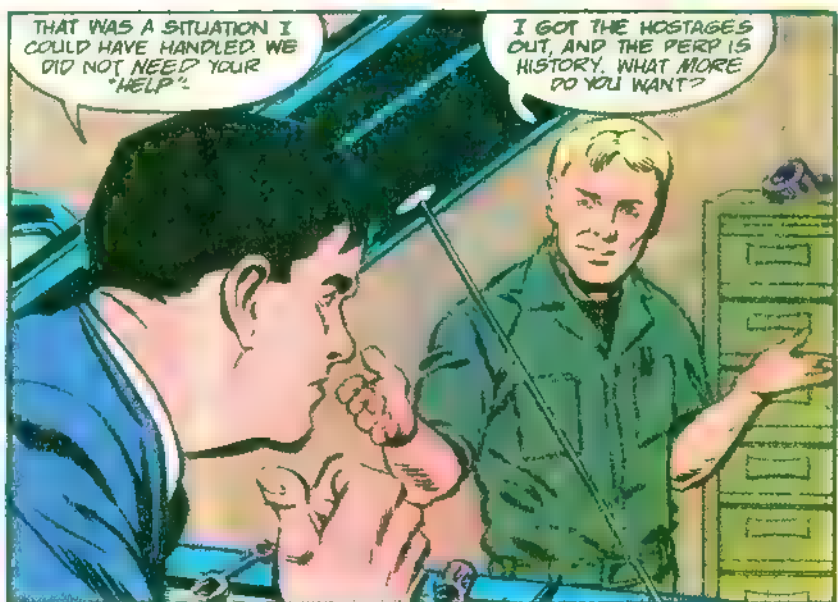
WHY NOT?
BEATS SIGN
LANGUAGE.



THIS IS GETTING OUT
OF HAND YOU'RE MAKIN'
ME LOOK BAD... I HAD
TO GO OUT OF MY WAY
NOT TO CAPTURE YOU
TODAY...



OH, YOU THINK YOU
COULD'VE ?



THAT WAS A SITUATION I
COULD HAVE HANDLED. WE
DID NOT NEED YOUR
"HELP".

I GOT THE HOSTAGES
OUT, AND THE PERP IS
HISTORY. WHAT MORE
DO YOU WANT?



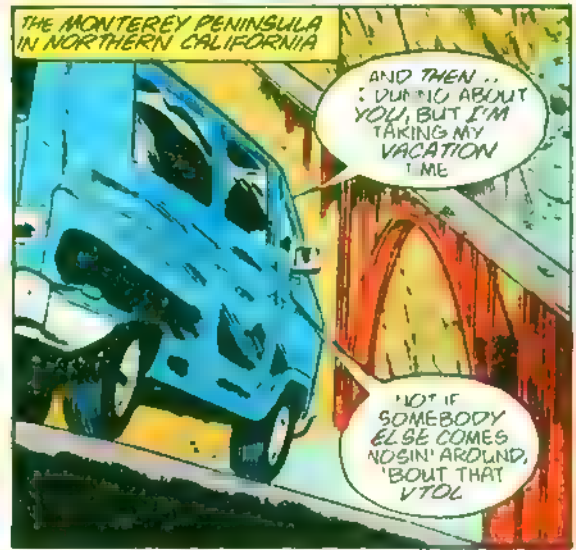
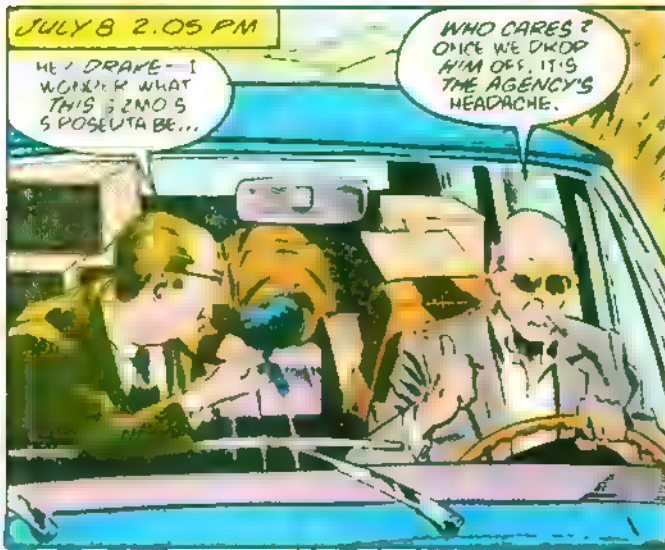
I WANT RESTRAINT AND
COMMON SENSE, JACK.
OR YOU'RE HANGING UP
THAT HOCKEY MASK
FOR GOOD.

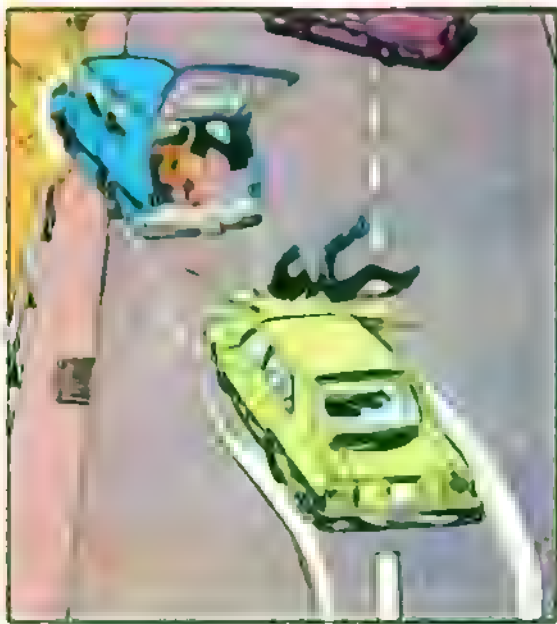
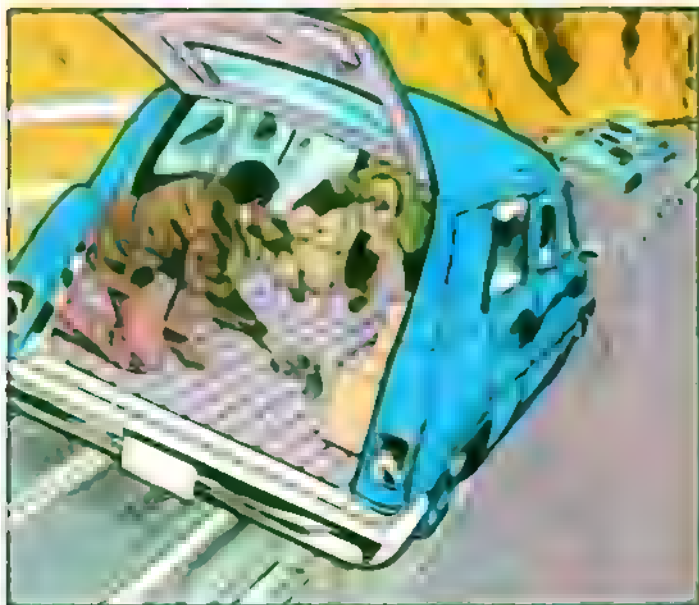
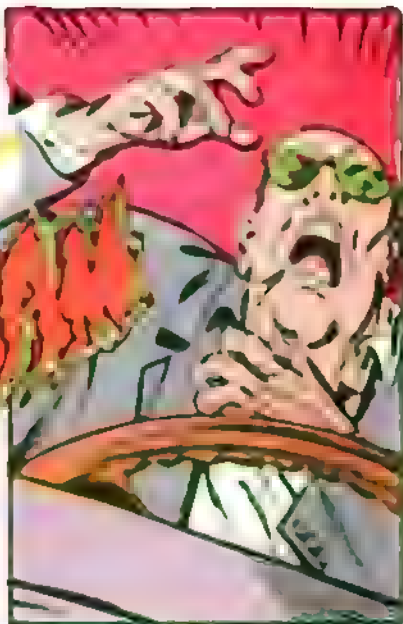


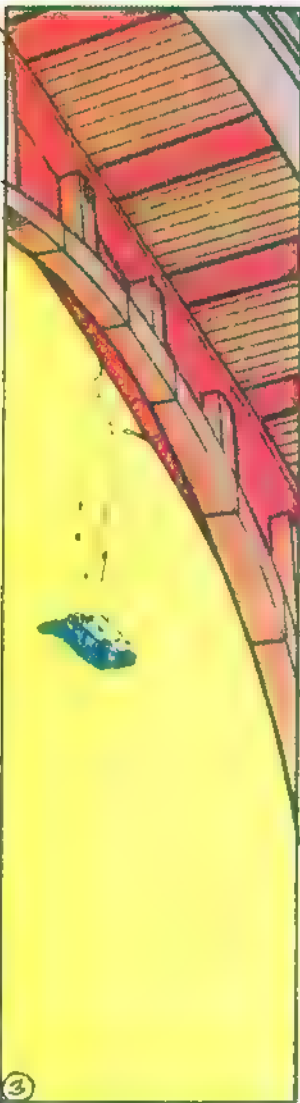
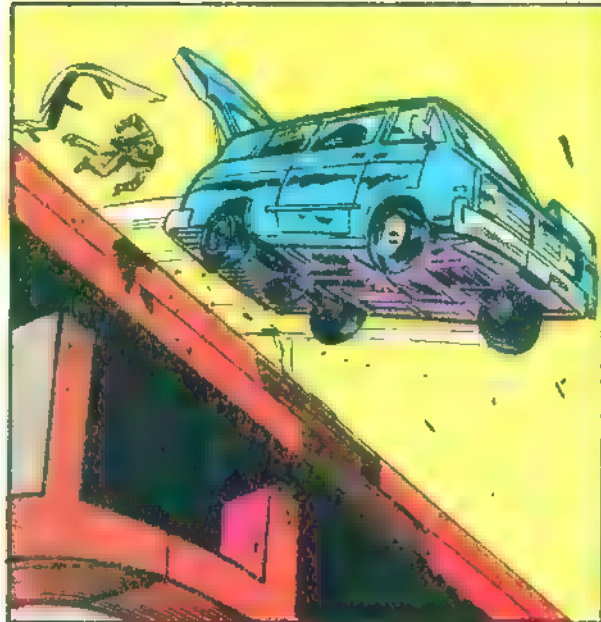
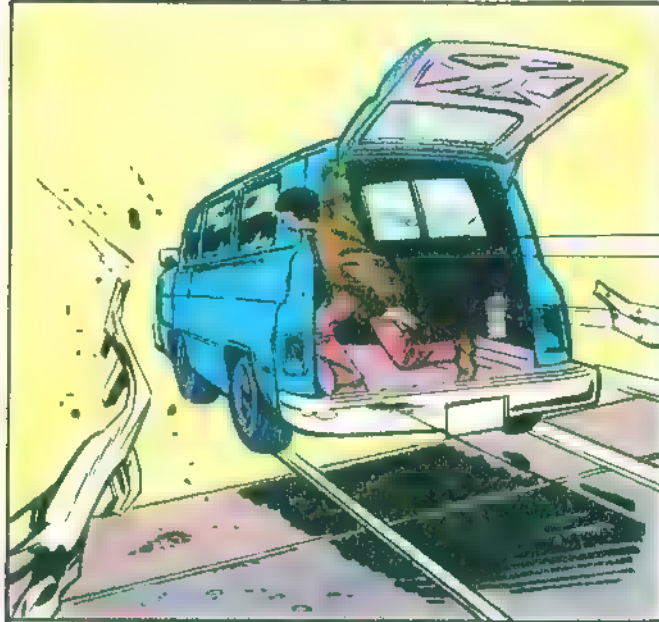
AND I WANT
YOU TO GIVE ME A
FULL DESCRIPTION OF
THE NIGHT SLASHER...
YOU GOT A GOOD
LOOK AT HER
LAST NIGHT...

TO BE CONTINUED.

SECRET SIX THE SECRET SIX SECRET SIX

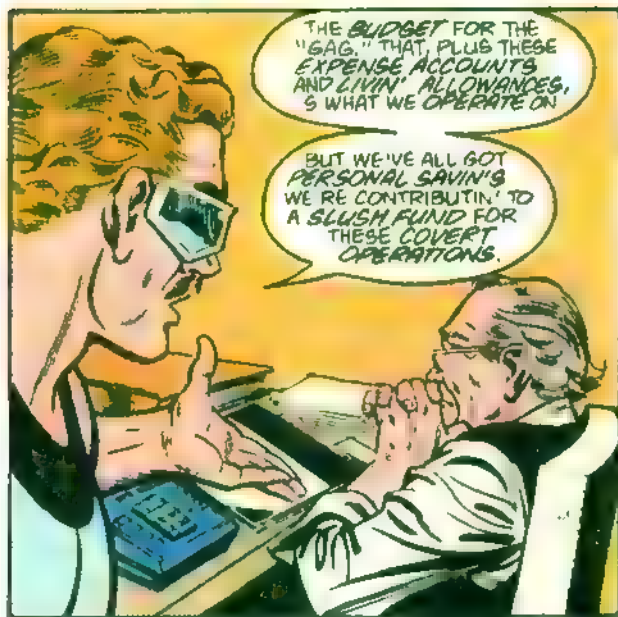
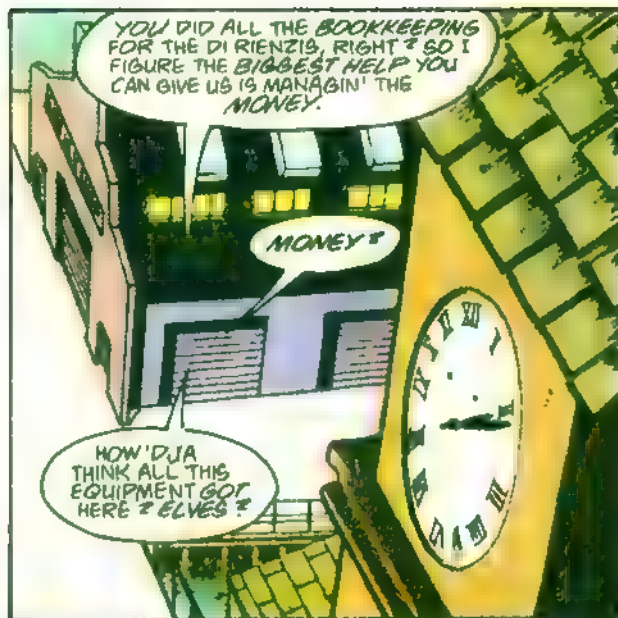




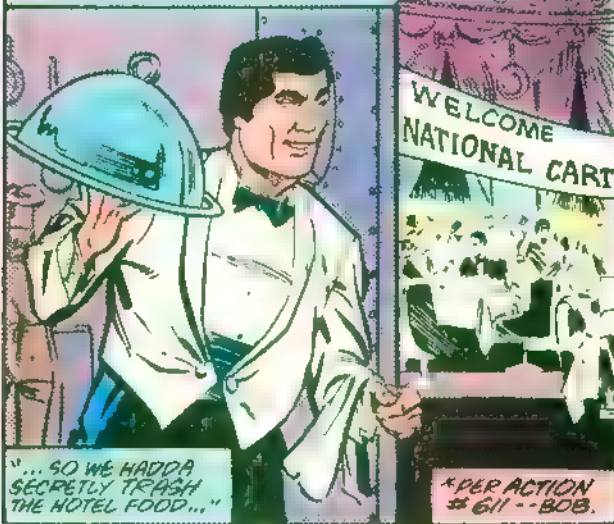


just a little bug that's going around

WRITTEN BY MARTIN PASKO / DRAWN BY FRANK SPRINGER & FRANK McLAUGHLIN
COLORED BY CARL GAFFORD / LETTERED BY ALBERT DE GUZMAN / EDITED BY ROBERT GREENBERGER



"...TONY HADDA POSE AS A WAITER AT A BANQUET HONORIN' 'FARMER' RALPH DORN * BUT WE COULDN'T LET INNOCENT PEOPLE GET THE CONTAMINATED GRUB TOO..."



"...SO WE HADDA SECRETLY TRASH THE HOTEL FOOD..."

*PER ACTION \$611--BOB.

"...AN' SUBSTITUTE 976 SAFE ENTREES FOR EVERYBODY EXCEPT DORN

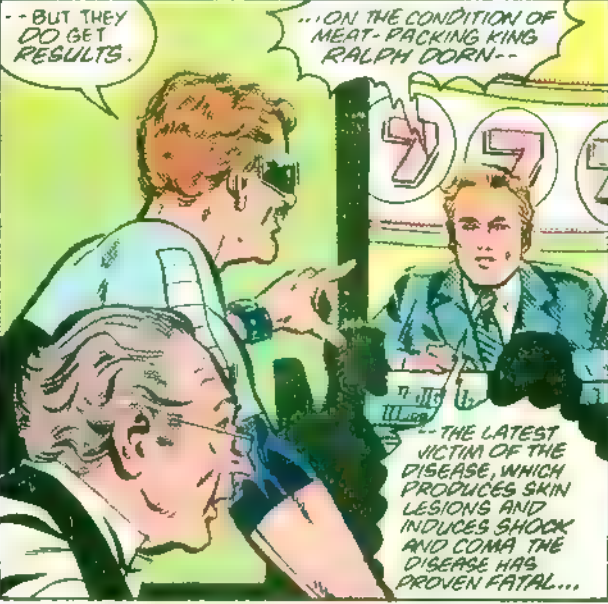


WHICH EXPLAINS THIS 18,300-DOLLAR "MISCELLANEOUS FOOD" ITEM

"...AND STILL NO WORD FROM ARLINGTON GENERAL..."

YEAH SO MAYBE OUR METHODS RUN INTO A CHUNK O' CHANGE--

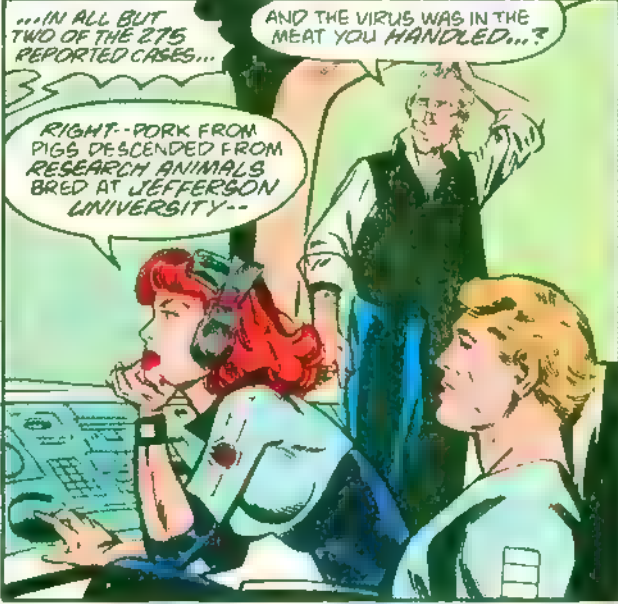
"...BUT THEY DO GET RESULTS."



"...ON THE CONDITION OF MEAT-PACKING KING RALPH DORN--

...THE LATEST VICTIM OF THE DISEASE, WHICH PRODUCES SKIN LESIONS AND INDUCES SHOCK AND COMA THE DISEASE HAS PROVEN FATAL..."

"...IN ALL BUT TWO OF THE 275 REPORTED CASES..."



AND THE VIRUS WAS IN THE MEAT YOU HANDLED...?

RIGHT--PORK FROM PIGS DESCENDED FROM RESEARCH ANIMALS BRED AT JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY--

BUT... BUT... IF YOU GUYS WERE EXPOSED TO IT, YOU COULD BE SPREADING SOME KIND OF HORRIBLE PLAGUE--"



SIGH: GUS, IF THAT WERE POSSIBLE, IT'D BE SO WIDE-SPREAD NOW, THE WHOLE COUNTRY WOULD KNOW ABOUT T.

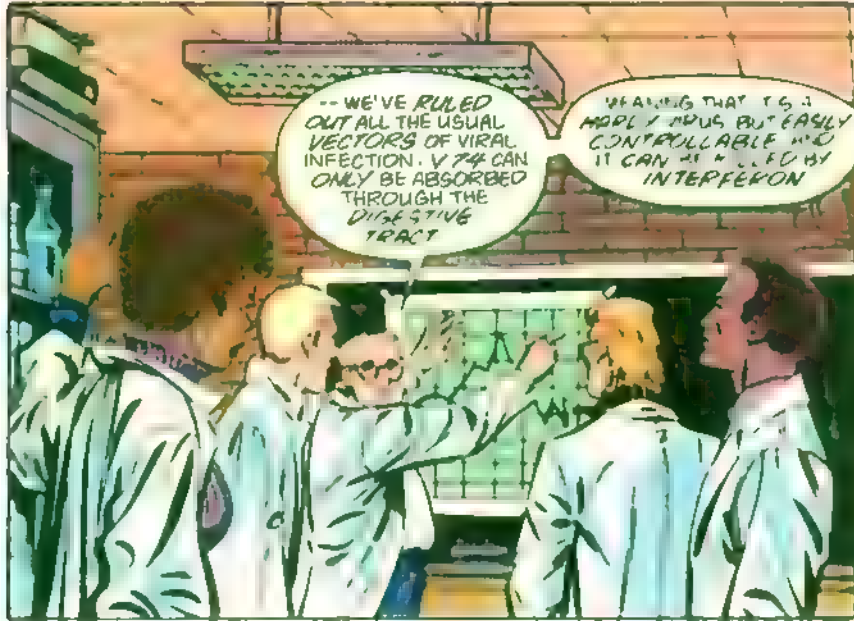
YOU HAVE TO INGEST T-- IN FOOD OR DRINK-- TO BECOME INFECTED



PUT IT ON THE SPEAKER, MAR A

WE'RE GETTING CONFIRMATION ON THAT FROM LABO NA NOW, IN FACT...

--BODILY SECRETIONS, AIRBORNE PARTICULATE MATTER, MOSQUITOES--



-- WE'VE RULED OUT ALL THE USUAL VECTORS OF VIRAL INFECTION. V74 CAN ONLY BE ABSORBED THROUGH THE DIGESTIVE TRACT

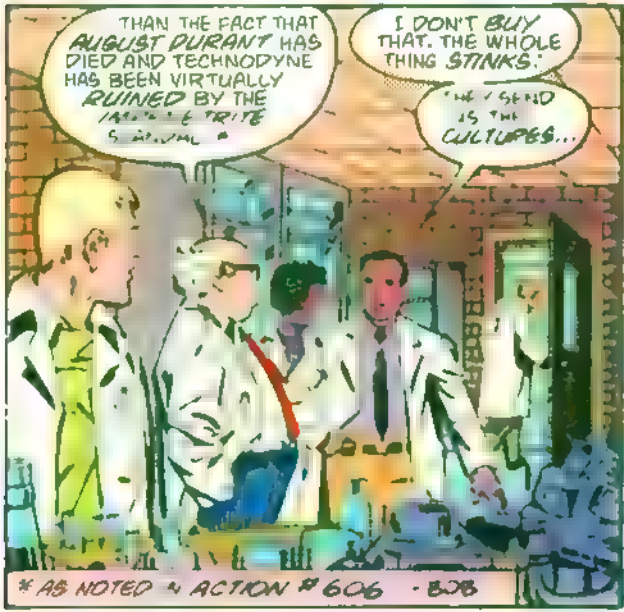
MEANING THAT IT'S A MOBILE VIRUS, BUT EASILY CONTROLLABLE AND IT CAN BE KILLED BY INTERFERON



YOU'D THINK TECHNO DYNE WOULD BE PLEASED TO HEAR THAT, DR AINSLEY SO WHY HAVE THEY WITHDRAWN OUR FUNDING?

GORDIMER HALL SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

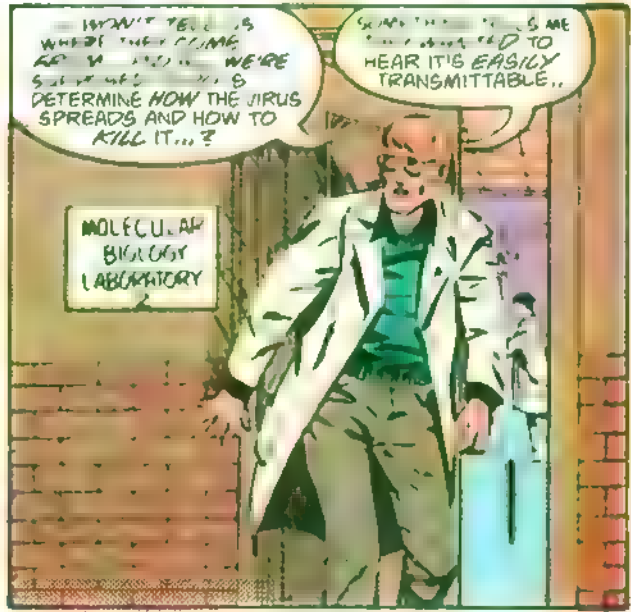
THAT IT MAY HAVE LESS OF AN IMPACT ON TEST RESULTS



THAN THE FACT THAT AUGUST DURANT HAS DIED AND TECHNO DYNE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY RUINED BY THE INFECTION

I DON'T BUY THAT. THE WHOLE THING STINKS.

THE VIRUS IS THE CULTURES...

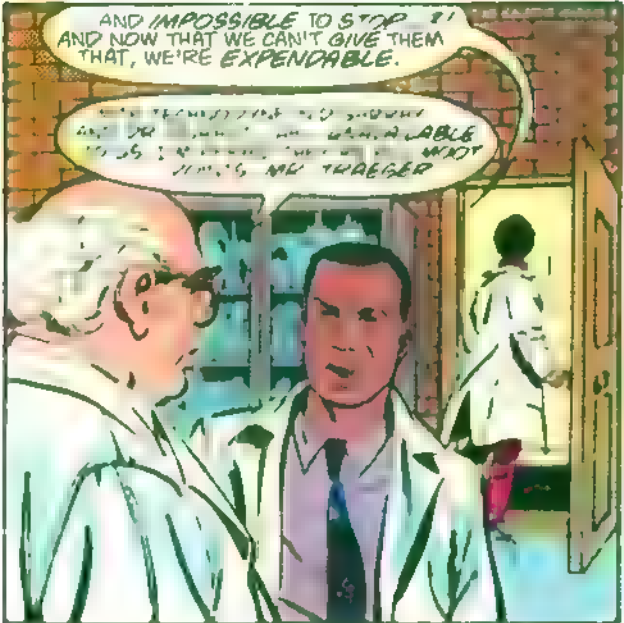


WHY? TELL US WHERE THEY'VE GONE. WE'RE DETERMINING HOW THE VIRUS SPREADS AND HOW TO KILL IT...

HEARD TO HEAR IT'S EASILY TRANSMITTABLE...

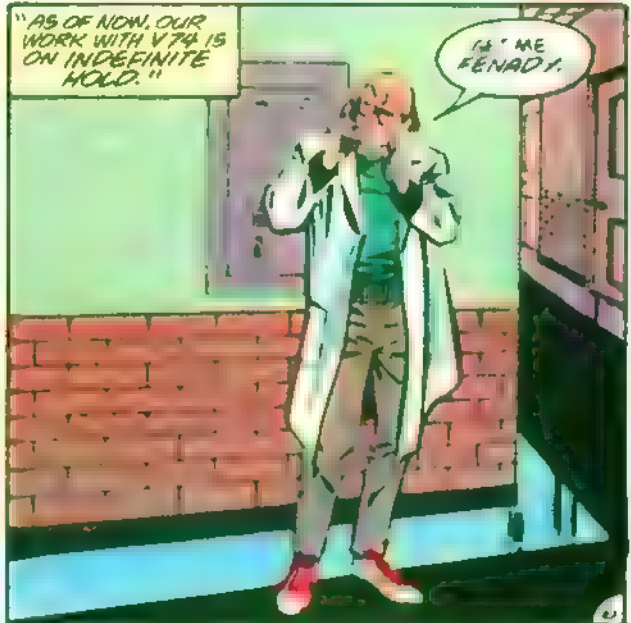
MOLECULAR BIOLOGY LABORATORY

* AS NOTED IN ACTION # 606 - BOB



AND IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP. AND NOW THAT WE CAN'T GIVE THEM THAT, WE'RE EXPENDABLE.

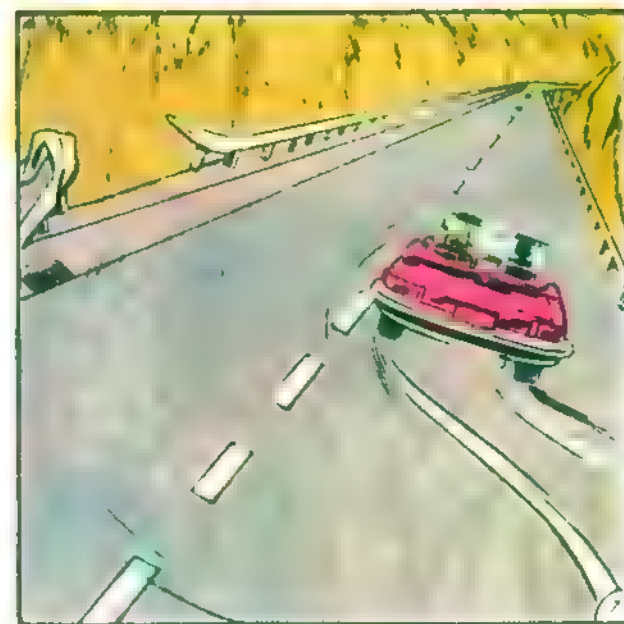
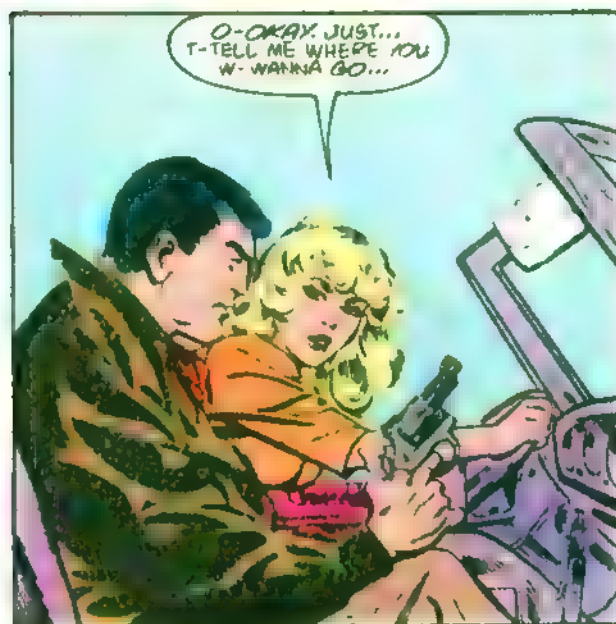
THE TECHNO DYNE VIRUS IS A DEADLY WEAPON. IT'S NOT JUST A VIRUS, IT'S A WEAPON.

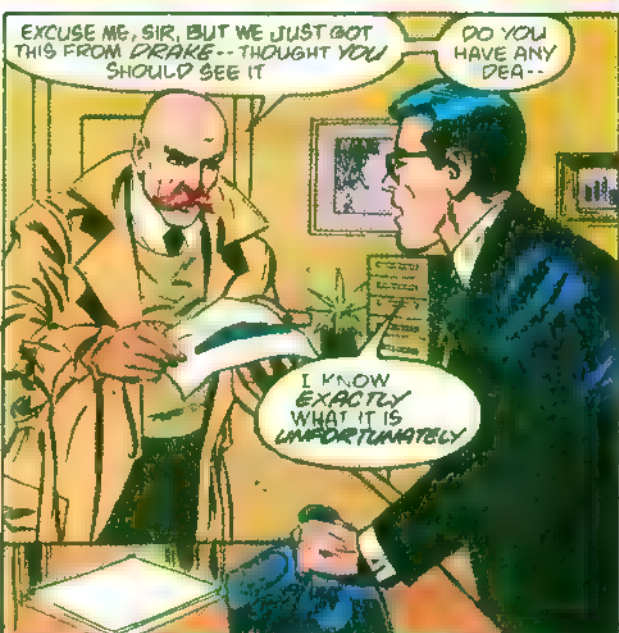
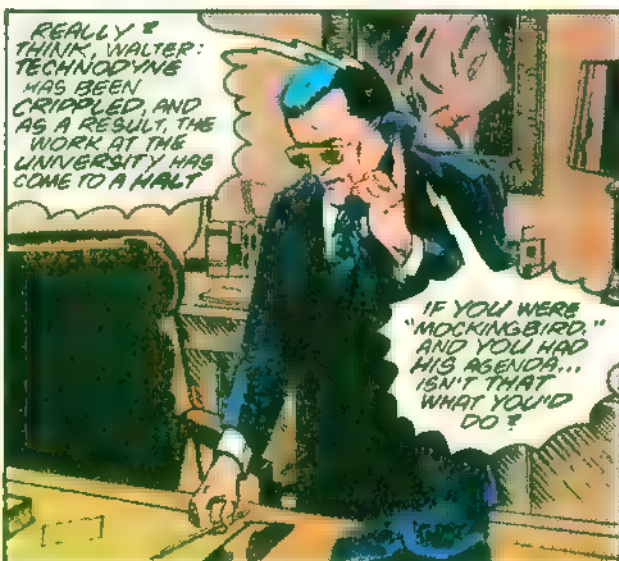
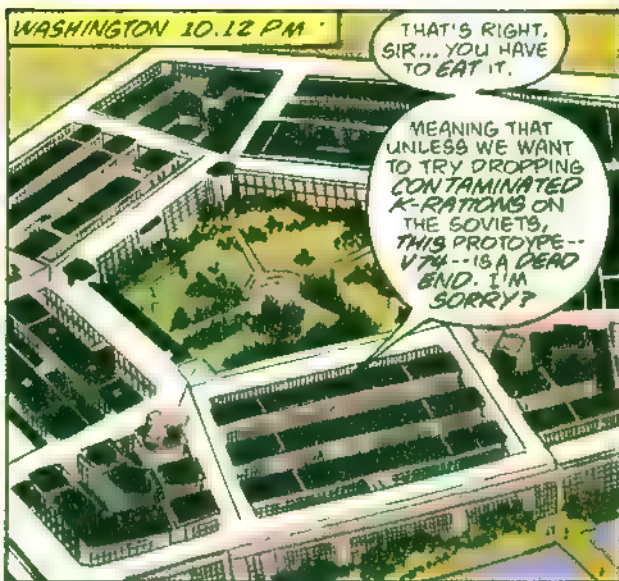
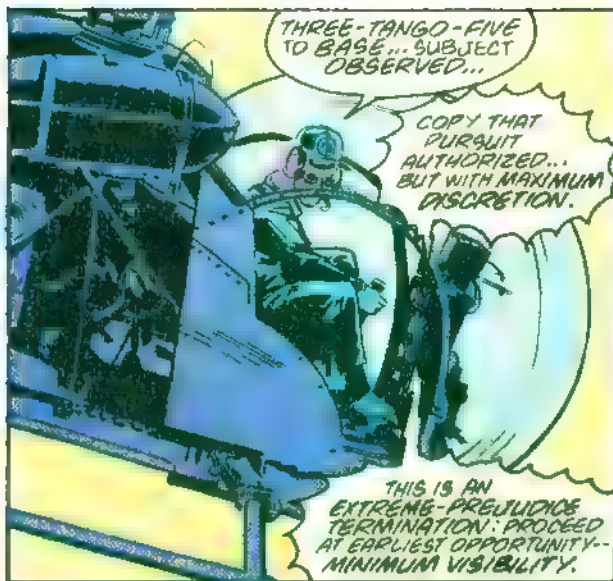


"AS OF NOW, OUR WORK WITH V74 IS ON INDEFINITE HOLD."

IS ME FENADY.

MEANWHILE

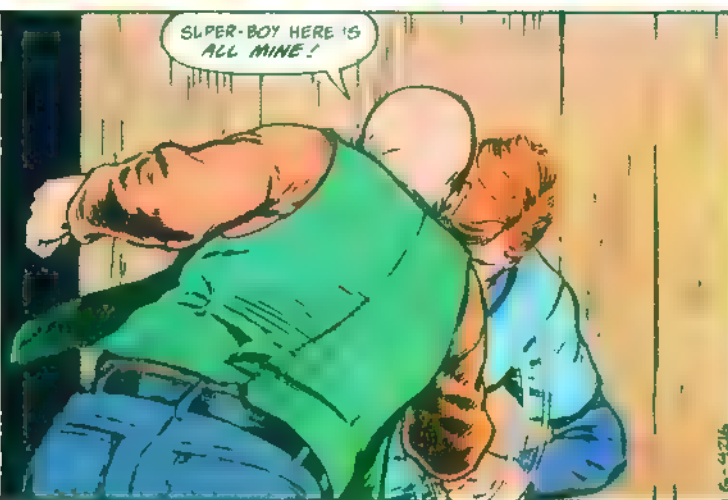
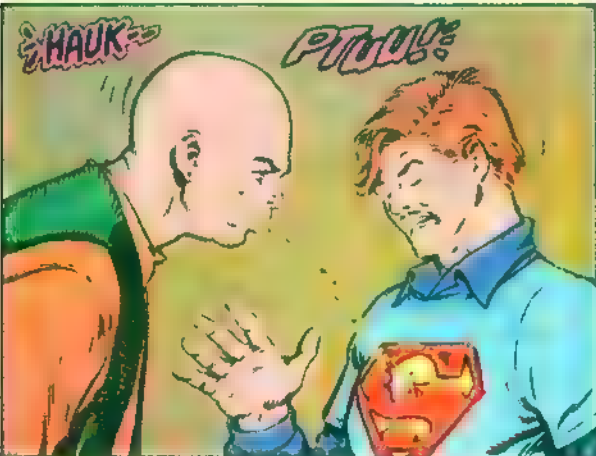
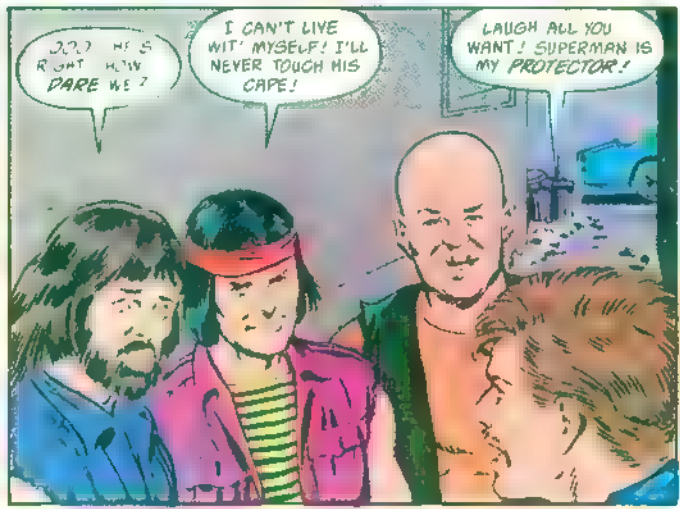
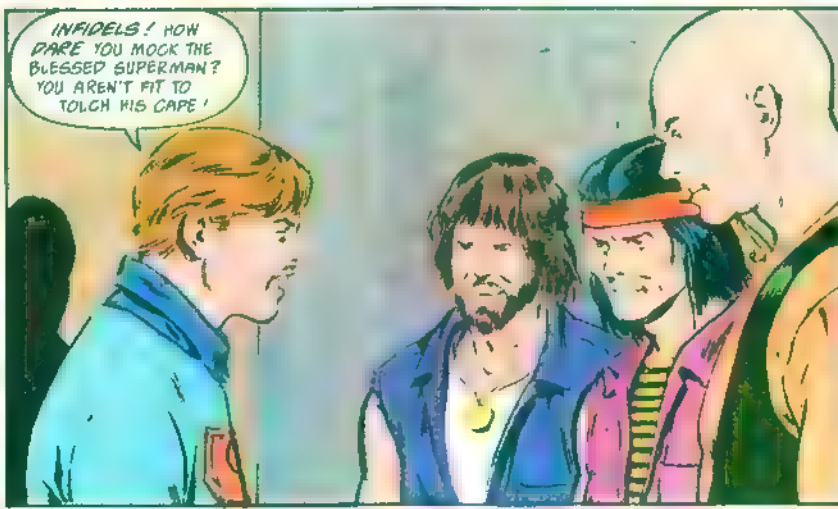




NEXT WEEK: SPOOKS RUN WILD

"TOO LATE, THE HERO?"

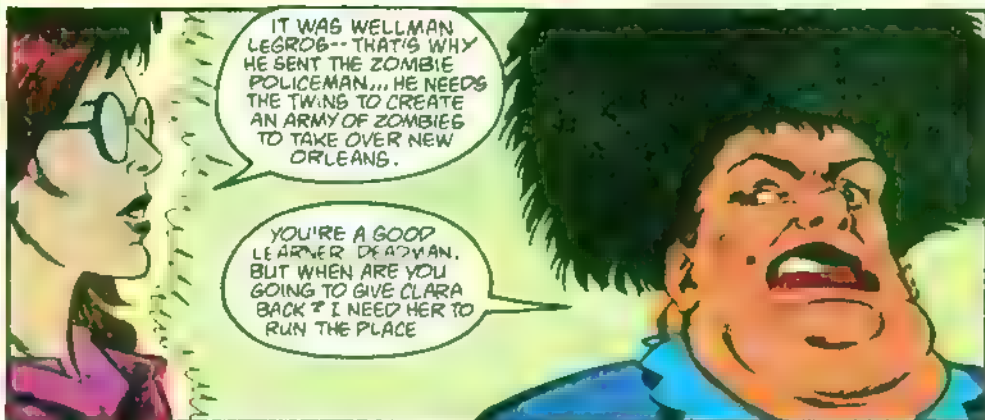
ROGER STEIN WRITER
CURT SWAN PENCILER
MURPHY ANDERSON INKER
BIL CHAIKIN LETTERER
TOM ZURLO JOINT
MIKE CARLIN EDITOR



MIKE BARON - WRITER
 KELLEY JONES - PENCILLER
 TOM DE LUCA - INKER
 ALBERTO PEREZ - LETTERER
 DANIEL VUJOVICH - COLORIST
 BARBARA KESSEL - EDITOR



SO... FIRST I'M VISITED
 BY A DEADMAN, THEN TWO
 ZOMBIES GRAB THE
 BROGREN TWINS.



IT WAS WELLMAN
 LEGROB-- THAT'S WHY
 HE SENT THE ZOMBIE
 POLICEMAN... HE NEEDS
 THE TWINS TO CREATE
 AN ARMY OF ZOMBIES
 TO TAKE OVER NEW
 ORLEANS.

YOU'RE A GOOD
 LEARNER DEADMAN.
 BUT WHEN ARE YOU
 GOING TO GIVE CLARA
 BACK? I NEED HER TO
 RUN THE PLACE

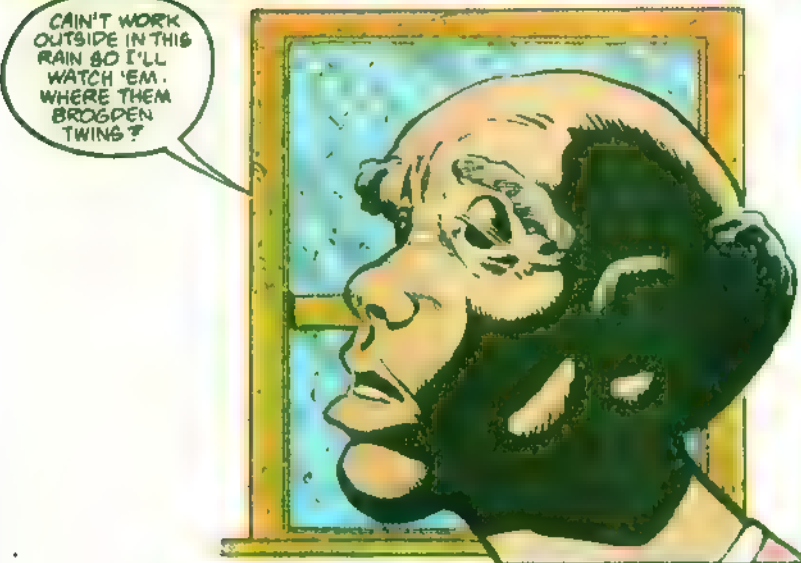
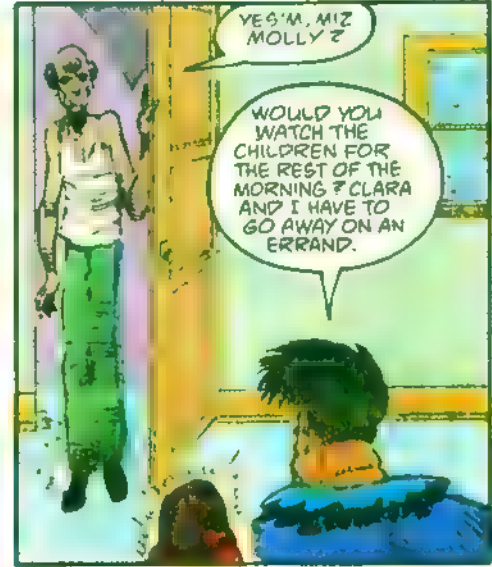


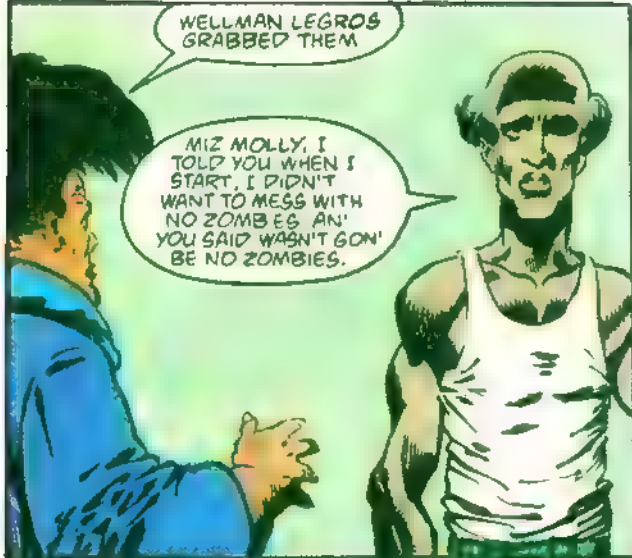
UNFORTUNATELY,
 MADAME, THE ONLY
 WAY I CAN SPEAK
 WITH YOU IS BY
 INHABITING THE
 BODIES OF THE
 LIVING.

HMMM... WE'LL
 HAVE TO DO
 SOMETHING
 ABOUT THAT AS
 SOON AS A MORE
 SUITABLE BODY
 PRESENTS
 ITSELF



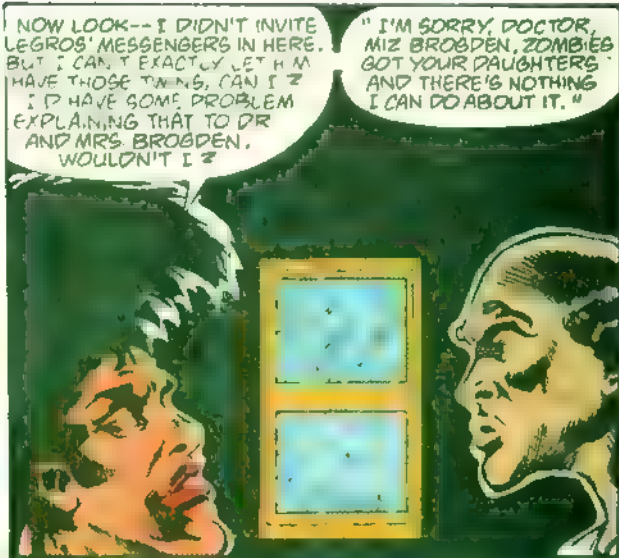
I'VE GOT
 TO GET THOSE
 PLS BACK
 NOT JUST TO
 PREVENT A
 ZOMBIE
 TAKEOVER
 BUT
 BECAUSE
 THE
 ZOMBIES
 ARE
 TOO
 VERY
 SCARY





WELLMAN LEGROS GRABBED THEM

MIZ MOLLY, I TOLD YOU WHEN I START, I DIDN'T WANT TO MESS WITH NO ZOMBIES. AN' YOU SAID WASN'T GON' BE NO ZOMBIES.



NOW LOOK-- I DIDN'T INVITE LEGROS' MESSENGERS IN HERE. BUT I CAN'T EXACTLY LET 'EM HAVE THOSE TINGS, CAN I ? I'D HAVE SOME PROBLEM EXPLAINING THAT TO DR AND MRS BROSDEN, WOULDN'T I ?

" I'M SORRY, DOCTOR, MIZ BROSDEN, ZOMBIES GOT YOUR DAUGHTERS AND THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT. "



HE'S GOT THE TWINS--HE WON'T BE BACK--SO YOU WON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH ANY ZOMBIES



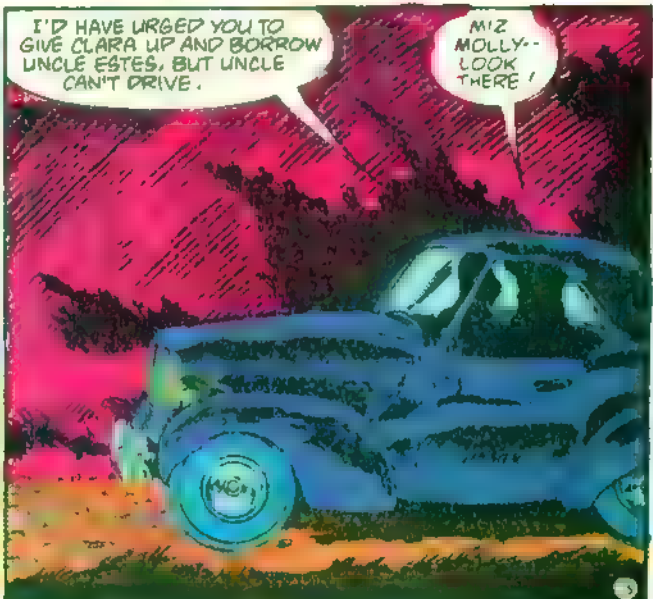
WHAT ABOUT THIS HERE DEAD POLICEMAN ? I SURE DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THAT...



PUT HIM IN THE SMOKEHOUSE--AND WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T REMOVE THAT KNIFE !



LEAVE THAT COP CAR, HONEY. LET'S TAKE MINE.



I'D HAVE URGED YOU TO GIVE CLARA UP AND BORROW UNCLE ESTES, BUT UNCLE CAN'T DRIVE.

MIZ MOLLY--LOOK THERE !



THAT
LOOKS
LIKE
TROUBLE.

THEY'RE HEADING TOWARD
THE GARDEN DISTRICT. I HOPE
WE'RE NOT TOO LATE



YOU DON'T THINK
HE KILLED THEM, DO
YOU?

NO--HE WOULDN'T
WASTE A SACRIFICE BY
DOING IT IN THE DAY
ALTHOUGH IT'S SO
DARK, YOU COULD
FOOL SOME OF THE
SPIRITS THE ZOMBIES
CAN SENSE THE POWER
AND THEY'RE STARTING
TO GATHER.

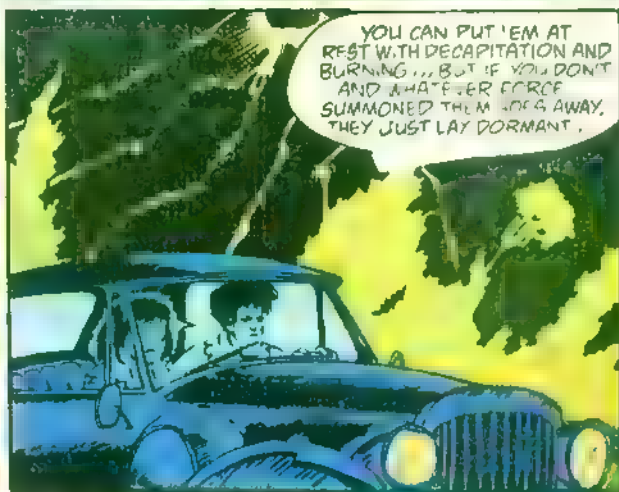


WHERE DO
THEY ALL
COME FROM?

OH, LOTTA ZOMBIES
HEREABOUTS SOME
YEARS BACK PAIR
OF TWINS TRIED TO
RALLY 'EM AND
MARCH ON THE CITY
PURELY A MIRACLE
WE WEREN'T ALL
KILLED.



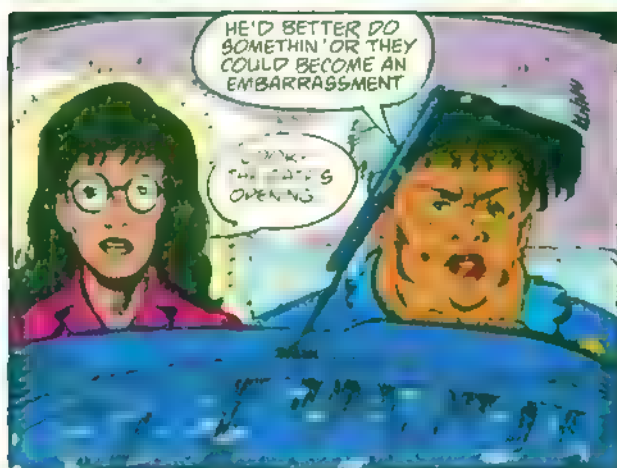
SOME OF 'EM
BEEN LYING IN
THE GROUND SINCE
THEN, JUST WAITIN'
FOR THE BELL TO
RING!!!

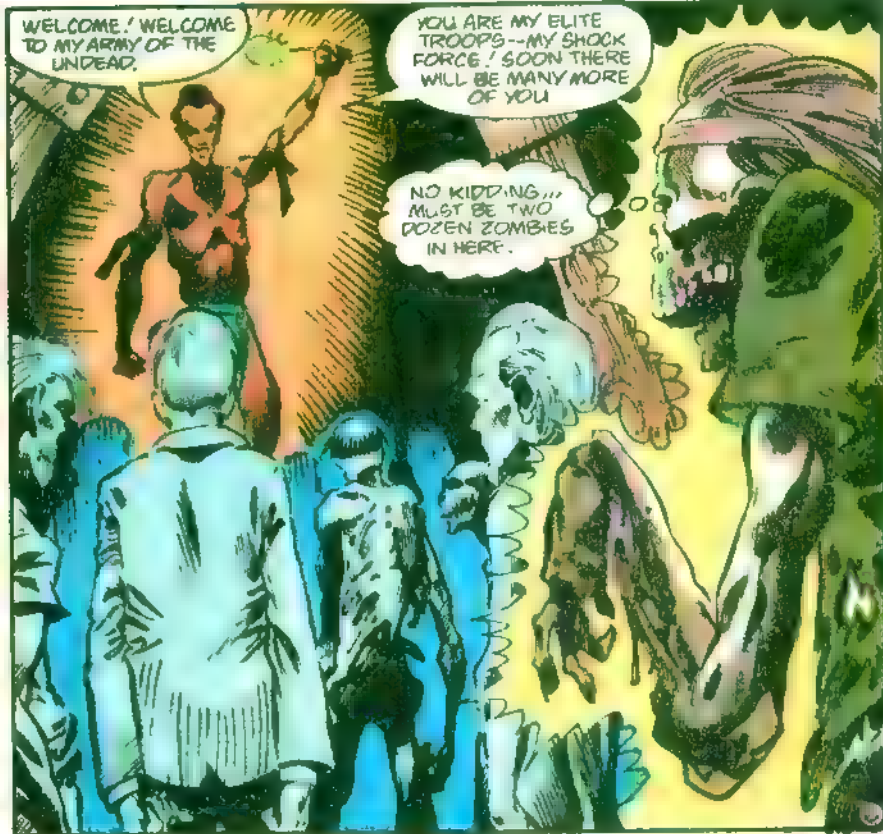
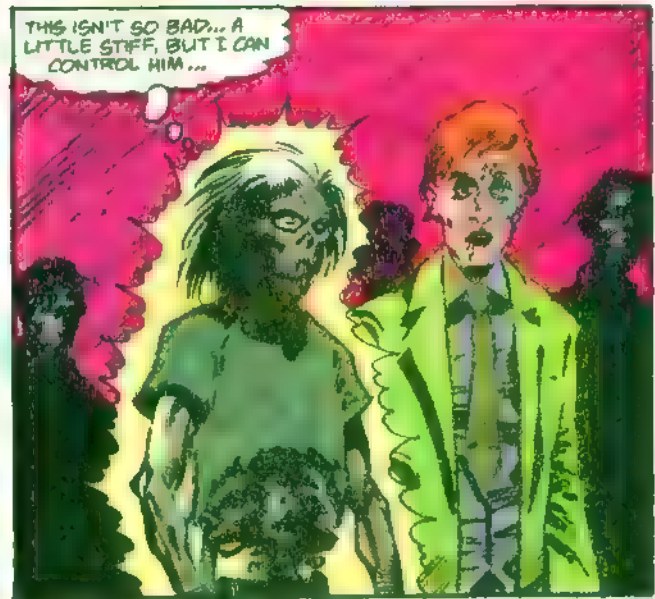
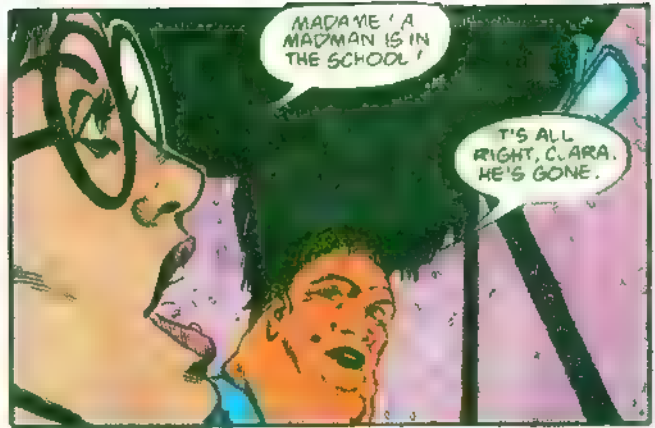
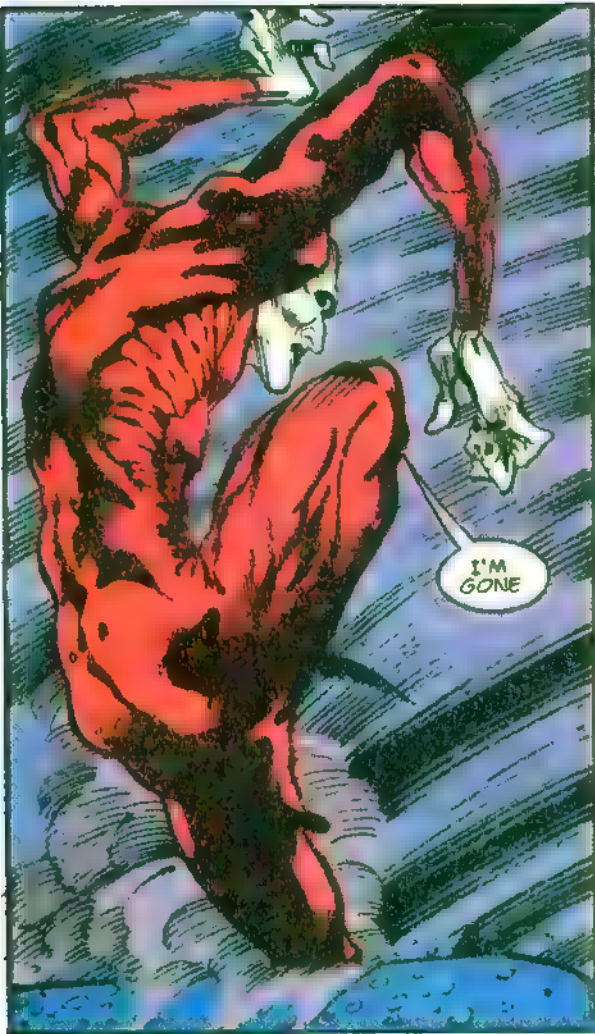


YOU CAN PUT 'EM AT
REST WITH DECAPITATION AND
BURNING,,, BUT IF YOU DON'T
AND WHATEVER FORCE
SUMMONED THEM GOES AWAY,
THEY JUST LAY DORMANT.



BUT IF A REAL POWERFUL SOURCE
COMES ON THE SCENE, A REAL HELL-RAISIN'
HOORAH OF A HOUGAN, LIKE BRE'R LEGROS,
OR A COUPLE OF EVIL-MINDED TWINS,
THEN THE ZOMBIES START COMING OUT
OF THE WOODWORK. HAVEN'T SEEN
'EM THIS BAD SINCE THE ZOMBIE
WARS OF '77.







SOS...

WAHH...

BEHOLD! PERFECT TWINS--LISA AND LETITIA BROGDEN. AFTER TONIGHT, THEY SHALL LEAD US AS THE PERFECT INCARNATION OF THE JOA BON DIEU WILL SPEAK TO US THROUGH THEM.



THOSE GIRLS ARE TERRIFIED! I'M GETTING THEM OUT OF HERE RIGHT NOW

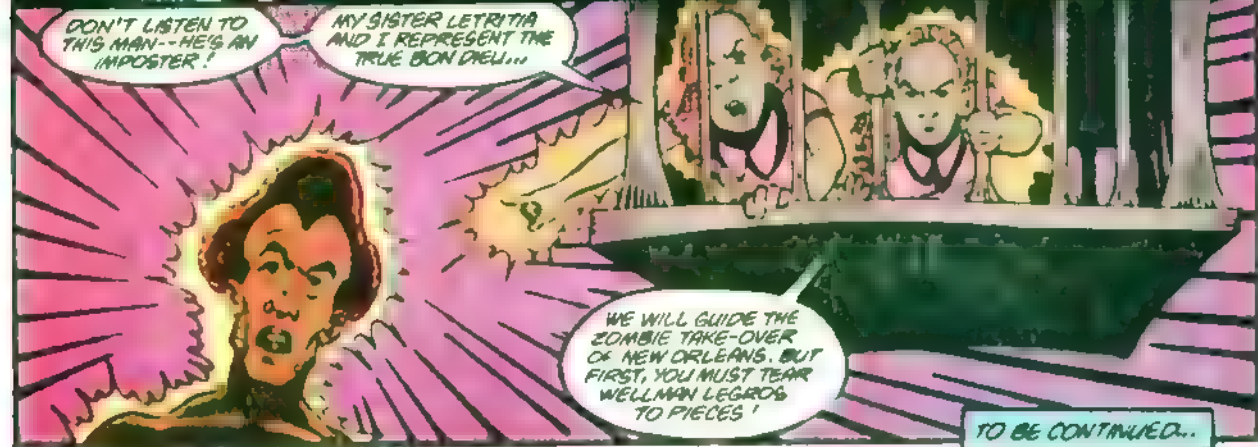


MY MISTAKE LAST NIGHT WAS GOING FOR THE COP!



THIS TIME, NO MISTAKES! I'M GOING AFTER LEGROS HIMSELF!

EH? THAT PRESENCE AGAIN...



ACTION

COMICS WEEKLY

DC COMICS INC.

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Dear Guys,

After years of reading "comic" books I decided to write my first letter. I will evaluate each story in the most democratic fashion: the order in which they were presented. The Black Canary story was, overall, fantastic, but it had some loose ends such as, who is Rita? Is she a character I am just unfamiliar with, or someone's Beatles flashback? By the way, Oliver is Green Arrow right? Hopefully, all questions will be answered next ish.

Well, Mike, you've done it again! No one could portray Deadman like you do, mixing humor with such serious, soul searching, everyday topics such as Satan inhabiting Nancy Reagan's body! The jokes were hilarious! The Beverly Hillsbillies's theme, OH, AHA, HA HA, HA! Keep up the good work.

Next up, the Secret Six. Let Supes have all the supervillains, these guys will bring down the industrial crooks. This is one great series, and my only complaint is this: Why don't Vic's "eyes" bulge out of his mask? I know it's nit-picking, but I didn't want your heads to get too bloated!

Now, Mr. Stern, I love the Sunday strip layout of Superman, but I find it hard to believe that people find him a God. Hell, when Superman had the powers of a God, nobody bought the damn comic! Hopefully the next story line will be better.

What do you get when you mix Dick Tracy with Rambo? Wild Dog, that's what! Mr. Collins, I really enjoyed this storyline, it's only a matter of time until the righteous "moral" censors go to extremes to convey their beliefs. I'll be holding my breath til issue 615!

Thank God Green Lantern is here to stay! I'm sorry Jim left, but Peter, you are doing one hell of a job! Ha, the consumer is always right! I love black humor!

John Br 11
7350 S.W. 154 Terrace
Miami, FL 33157

Rita made her debut in GREEN ARROW. John but I loved your Beatles line!

....

Dear Editor

The following is one critic's report on ACTION COMICS WEEKLY 609 with each feature reviewed in order of appearance.

BLACK CANARY—I was impressed with Randy DuBurke's artwork in a recent Bonus Book (appearing in DOOM

PATROL 9) I thought that was the best of the Bonus Books to date, and so I had great expectations when he started on Black Canary. I missed the preview in GREEN ARROW, but this opening installment here makes up for it in a big way. Sharon Wright also has great potential, and I see no faults here. DuBurke's art reminds me of Kyle Baker (THE SHADOW). Did they get their start together? Their styles are very similar and very difficult to tell apart. Canary's off to a good start.

DEADMAN—I hate to say this, but how soon before this story reaches its end? This has gone from good to bad to absolutely terrible in nine weeks. Baron couldn't have timed this plot twist any worse than he did. As I'm writing this, Reagan and Gorbachev have had a summit in Moscow, while their wives are quietly staging a private cold war. Baron, at least, painted a near accurate picture in this vein. Jurgens appears to be rushing through this, as if he knows this has turned into a dog of a story. BLAHHHHH!

SECRET SIX—Still the best feature this book has to date. Nice twist by Pasko, using hired thugs working (supposedly, I would think) for Mockingbird to capture Rafael. As a little girl once put it, ever so mildly, "Curiouser and curiouser." Did Bridwell have *Mission Impossible* in mind when he created the Secret Six? Spiegel is perfect for the series. Keep the suspense going. I'm enjoying every minute of this.

SUPERMAN—Okay, so it took Roger Stern two months to warm up. This story is getting better and better with each passing week. I usually don't read the Sunday funnies that much anymore, but this makes me wish I did. Only Lee Falk's *Phantom* matches this for sheer dramatic content. And to think this was a dog a few weeks ago.

WILD DOG—A very good finish to a storyline that had started out as only average. Nice Hitchcockian ending straight out of his old TV series. Can't wait for WILD DOG to return.

GREEN LANTERN—Another feature that has seen better days. The change in creative teams dropped this series down to the pits. I suggest you change the format of this feature. Let's see a storyline spotlighting Killwog, Ch'p, or even Arisia, pinch-hitting for Hal once in a while. Tod Smith just doesn't cut it as a Green Lantern artist at all. I suggest you corral Gil Kane for one more go-around, or if you can't do that, have Barreto take over. I can't take any more of this.

Suggestions for the future: Blue

Beetle, Elongated Man (by Wein, Infantino, and Anderson!), Adam Strange and the Creeper (by Kane, not Giffen!), Also Changers of the Unknown, by Wein, Toth, and Theakston (remember the issue of DC PRESENTS that Kirby and Toth both pencilled?) All worth reading.

Until Oprah meets Chunk (from FLASH) and both enter Weight Watchers.

Jacob Gilbert
118 4th St., Apt. 1
Troy, NY 12180

You're vicious, Jacob

Randy's an absolute newcomer who made his professional debut in that DOOM PATROL preview you mentioned. Kyle's been around for a couple of years, although with all the attention his work has been receiving lately (THE SHADOW, Cowboy Wally) he might seem like a newcomer.

Glad you mentioned THE PHANTOM. You'll be happy to learn (I hope) that after the strong reception to last spring's mini-series, we're going to be launching an on-going monthly title, probably early 1989—written by Mark Verheiden and pencilled by Luke McDonnell!

And, since you gave us your rankings, Jacob

....

THE GREAT ACTION COMICS WEEKLY POLL

ACW #608 (previous issue's standing in parentheses)

- #1 Deadman (#1)
- #2 Green Lantern (#1)
- #3 Black Canary
- #4 Wild Dog (#5)
- #5 Secret Six (#4)
- #6 Superman (#6)

....

Dear Editor

You asked for a ranking of this week's stories, so here it is. This is the first ACTION COMICS WEEKLY I ever got, so you'll have to excuse me if I'm not familiar with some of the stories.

Here they are:

1—GREEN LANTERN—I don't follow GREEN LANTERN too much, but a story like this, I can't help but enjoy. It's great to see "super heroes" as human beings from time to time. Also, I had to laugh at the bit on page three. How do you suppose Guy Gardner would handle the Oprah Winfrey show? That could be interesting!

2—BLACK CANARY—The reason I bought the book. This looks like a good story coming. I suppose it will do until she gets her own book. But PLEASE spare me. You don't have to lie to people. If you want to change her costume, fine, but don't try to pass off the get-up on the cover as "more functional dress!" I didn't like the other costume at first, but at least it didn't make her look like some kind of showgirl (or worse). If you want to show off her body, fine! But don't waste time and space with this drivel about the "practical applications" of fishnet stockings.

3—SECRET SIX—I didn't quite follow everything going on here, being my first time and all, but you got me waiting for the next issue anyway.

4—DEADMAN—I thought this was stupid, and utterly foolish. But there were funny bits. I liked the part when he told the girl that he was fooling around on her just before leaving the body.

5—WILD DOG—What the heck?!! A cross between Rambo and Jason? As far as this is concerned, #615 may be a bit too soon.

6—SUPERMAN—(Last Place) Don't bother me with two page stories.

J.R. Gipson
7819 Galveston Blvd. #D3
Norfolk, VA 23505

Dear Mike and Bob and Brian

I was planning on holding my comments, writing once every four issues (the comic is expensive enough as it is, I don't need to spend yet another dollar on stamps each month), but one story in ACTION COMICS WEEKLY 609 stuck out as being so good, I had to write. That story is DEADMAN.

At first, I was a little unsure of how Mike Baron was going to handle this story. I mean, the guns for drugs trading is something that was made tired by our real government, I didn't need to be reminded about it in my comics. I read them to forget about Reagan and Oliver North. Luckily, the story has recently taken an interesting twist and has transformed from a mediocre story to the best of the bunch! Under the current team of Baron and Jurgens, DEADMAN is a very successful story. Successful enough to deserve its own book! Think about it.

The other stories, however, don't fare quite as well as DEADMAN. BLACK CANARY is too young to decide, even though its art leaves a little to be desired. WILD DOG is passable, SUPERMAN and SECRET SIX are plain boring, and GREEN LANTERN is absolutely horrendous! If it were up to me, I'd get a new creative team on that book and fast. For a character with such a rich background, Peter David has churned out some of the worst GREEN LANTERN stories I've ever read. Get a new writer, get a new artist, and get a new editor for this one!

I'm placing a vote for Deadman to get his own book.

By the way, even though DEADMAN is great, it doesn't justify my paying \$1.50 each week for eight pages of good

comics. Unless you get rid of SECRET SIX and start improving GREEN LANTERN and SUPERMAN, I don't think I can continue buying ACTION COMICS WEEKLY.

Chris Romano
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272-2130

Let me get this right: you didn't care for Green Lantern, right? As you've probably noticed, we've been making some changes, and the on-going regular team will be Jim Owsley, writer, Mark Bright, penciller and Jose Marzan, inker.

Dear Editor,

We have your classic good news/bad news situation with the new weekly ACTION COMICS WEEKLY. First, the book itself. Though I personally have always loved anthology titles best, I must confess to genuine surprise that DC has leapt so wholeheartedly into the idea of a weekly anthology title. There's a lot at stake here, folks, and I can't help wondering why you didn't test the waters more cautiously. Why at 48 pages weekly? Why didn't you start off with a standard 32-page, containing three 7-page strips and the 2-page Superman? As an older, employed reader, I can afford the weekly \$1.50 price tag, but the majority of your audience isn't going to be able to handle the additional strain to their comics-buying budget. Seems a certainty that you're going to have to adjust your page count and/or price come this autumn.

Other good news/bad news. Lovely to see Gil Kane on GREEN LANTERN. But of all the Green Lanterns you could have killed off, why was Katma Tui selected? Next to Hal, she's been around the longest. Seeing her dispatched so summarily seemed especially disrespectful. I have a friend who insists that DC stands for "Dead Characters," and instances like this (and what Martin Pasko has done to the original Secret Six) makes it difficult to refute him. If Katma's demise was an effort to further remove this new series from the old GREEN LANTERN CORPS title, it seems an overly harsh measure.

I loved the old SECRET SIX series. It remains, to date, my favorite DC book ever. I was overjoyed to learn it was going to be revived here. The bad news? That it's six new people! What was wrong with the originals? The entire suspense of Who-is Mockingbird has been diluted knowing that it can't be anyone from the new team. I guess only time will tell whether or not Pasko can come close to delivering the intricate edge-of-your-seat type plotting series creator E. Nelson Bridwell delivered consistently, so far, things are moving too slowly to tell. But there is no art so better suited for drawing this kind of strip than Dan Speigle.

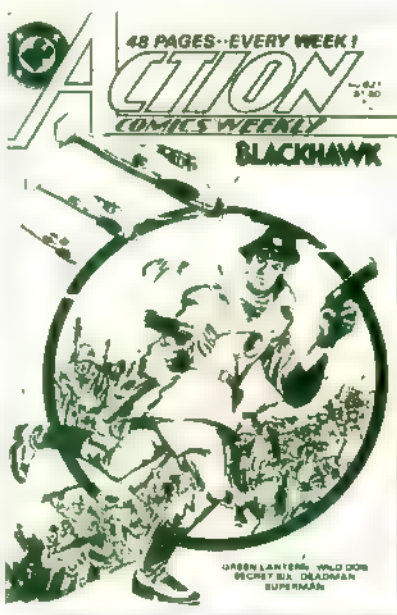
I'm also disappointed to learn that Green Lantern won't be one of the rotating strips, but will be on hand in every issue. The stories are going to have to improve tenfold to warrant such special status. Too many "homeless" charac-

ters abound (Elongated Man, Batgirl, Rose and Thorn spring to mind) for one character to hog space without making better use of it.

Despite the somewhat glum tone of my letter, I do indeed wish you success. Would that every comic could be a giant anthology.

Scott Gibson
2711 S. Pinehurst Dr.
Evergreen, CO 80439

Why 48 pages? Make no small plans, Scott, and give the readers some variety. Some publishers' idea of experimentation with anthologies is to do mutant solo spin-off stories: in other words, more of the same old thing. We're going to experiment, throw you some curves, and (as our reader's survey indicates) LISTEN to your reactions. ACW is your book, folks.



Next week Joe Orlando contributes our Blackhawk cover, as we continue with the next chapters of each of our continuing series.

See you in seven!

—Mike Gold

***** VOTE! *****

Just as soon as you've finished this issue of ACTION COMICS WEEKLY—write us a letter or a postcard and rank this issue's stories in order of preference: the one you like the most, first, the one you liked second, second, and so on. Each week, we'll tally the vote and print the results right here in our letter column. Your opinion counts, so VOTE!

Send your ballots to:
Action Comics Weekly
Department 620
DC Comics Inc.
666 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10103

BLACKHAWK



... OF AN ANCIENT
BUDDHIST TEMPLE IN
SUMATRA-- JUNE, 1947



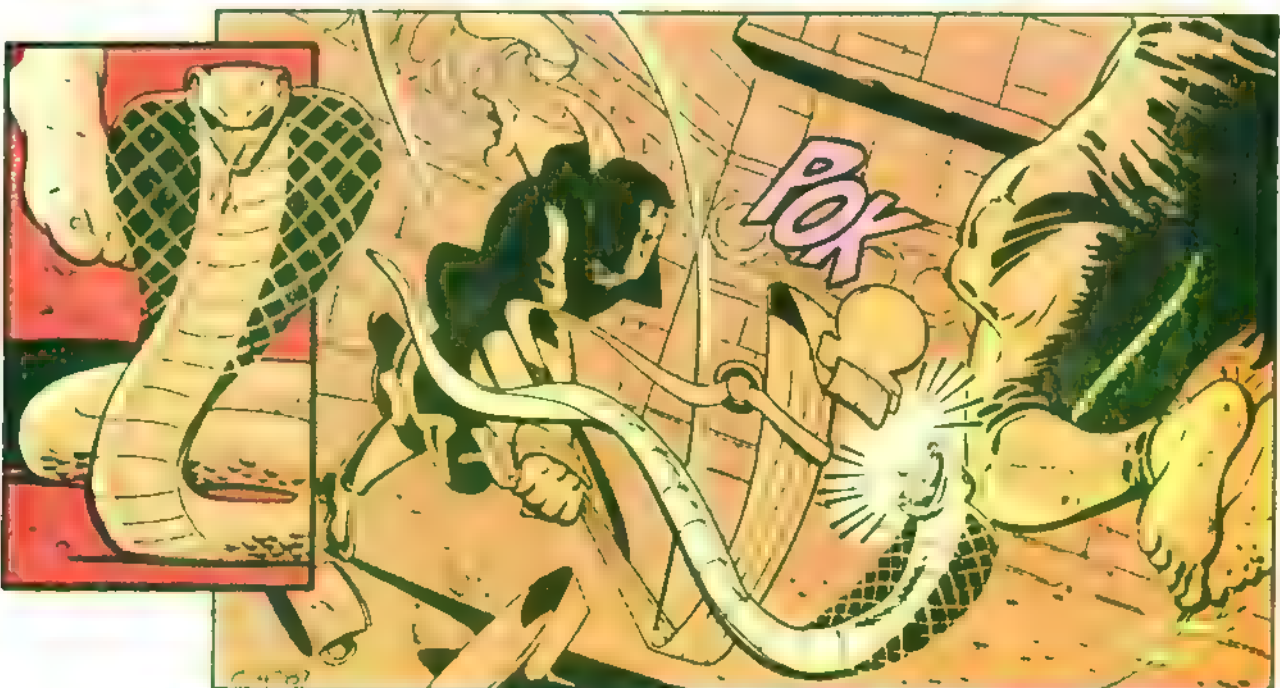
PLEASE.
DON'T--



IT'S NOT
WHAT YOU THINK
NOW JUST SHUT
UP--



--AND
DON'T
MOVE.



MOST GUYS JUST LEAVE HER HANGING THERE

WRITTEN BY
MARTIN PASKO

DRAWN BY
RICK BURCHETT

LETTERED BY
STEVE HAYNIE

COLORLED BY
TOM ZIUKO

EDITED BY
MIKE GOLD



MRS. RICHARDSON, RIGHT? ALICE RICHARDSON--?

UH RIGHT BUT WHO ARE YOU?



YOUR HUSBAND IS IN ANOTHER CHAMBER-- OUT COLD

MY HUSBAND--?

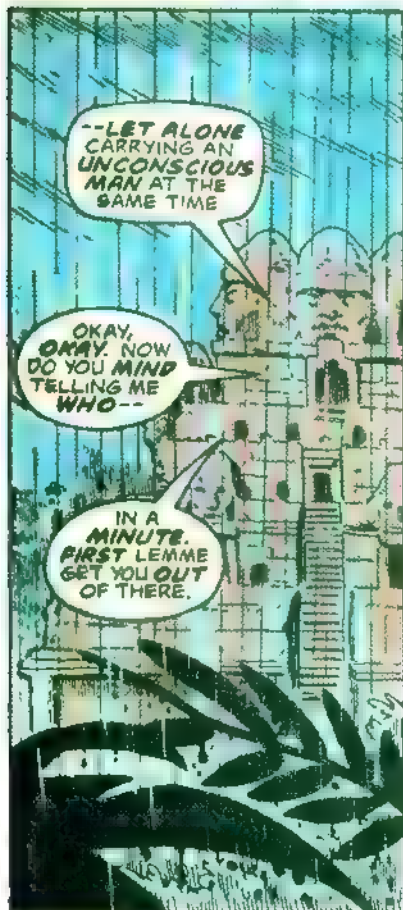
HE'S BEEN INJURED MAY HAVE TO CARRY HIM DOWN WITH US BUT THAT'LL HAVE TO WAIT-- PROBABLY TILL DAYLIGHT



"WAIT?"

UNLESS YOU KNOW A WAY TO KEEP THIS TORCH GOING IN THAT RAIN?

AND TRYING TO CLIMB DOWN THOSE WET STONES IN THE DARK WOULD BE A GOOD WAY TO GET KILLED-- JUST BY OURSELVES--



--LET ALONE CARRYING AN UNCONSCIOUS MAN AT THE SAME TIME

OKAY, OKAY. NOW DO YOU MIND TELLING ME WHO--

IN A MINUTE. FIRST LET ME GET YOU OUT OF THERE.



I THINK I CAN PICK THAT LOCK

LOOK, I'M SORRY ABOUT-- WHAT I THOUGHT WHEN--

FORGET IT HOW COULD YOU KNOW? --I LEFT MY CHARACTER REFERENCES IN MY OTHER COAT



ARE YOU REALLY GONNA RELEASE ME, OR IS THIS JUST YOUR WAY OF GETTING ACQUAINTED?

MY FRIENDS CALL ME JAN OR "BLACKHAWK."

AND YOUR ENEMIES CALL YOU-- WORDS LADIES AREN'T SUPPOSED TO USE RIGHT?



YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?

YEAH. AND I'M NO LADY, SO IF YOU DON'T QUIT SCREWING AROUND AND HURRY UP WITH THAT, YOU'RE GONNA HEAR A FEW OF THEM



ON THE OTHER HAND WELL YOU DO SMELL NICE

?? AH NOTHING PERSONAL. SISTER, BUT--



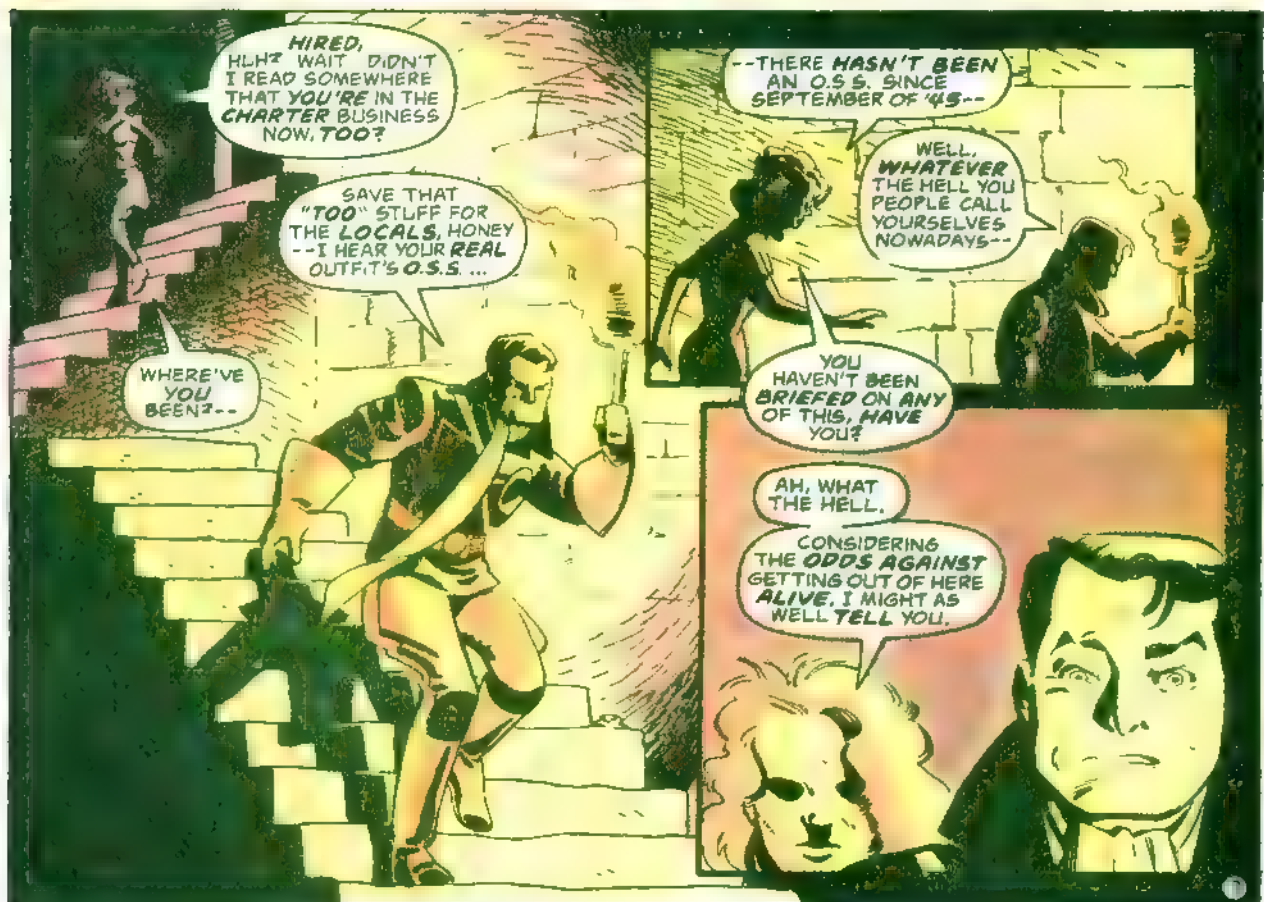
--I DON'T. YEAH, I KNOW.

I TRIED TO TALK VAN DER HOUTEN'S BOYS INTO GIVING ME THE CHINESE PERFUME TORTURE, BUT THEY WOULDN'T GO FOR IT.



SO HOW DO YOU COME TO BE WORKING WITH.. MY HUSBAND?

I WAS HIRED BY "MR RICHARDSON" IF HIS NAME ISN'T AS PHONEY AS HIS STORY...



HIRED. HUH? WAIT DIDN'T I READ SOMEWHERE THAT YOU'RE IN THE CHARTER BUSINESS NOW, TOO?

SAVE THAT "TOO" STUFF FOR THE LOCALS, HONEY --I HEAR YOUR REAL OUTFIT'S O.S.S. ...

WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?--

--THERE HASN'T BEEN AN O.S.S. SINCE SEPTEMBER OF '45--

WELL, WHATEVER THE HELL YOU PEOPLE CALL YOURSELVES NOWADAYS--

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN BRIEFED ON ANY OF THIS, HAVE YOU?

AH, WHAT THE HELL.

CONSIDERING THE ODDS AGAINST GETTING OUT OF HERE ALIVE, I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU.

IT'S ABOUT
THE GENERATOR.
A MICROWAVE
GENERATOR.

MICROWAVES
...AS IN RADAR?

I THINK SO.
THEY DON'T GIVE US
THE SPECS, Y'KNOW.
NEAR AS I CAN FIGURE,
THE THING GENERATES
THEM ARTIFICIALLY,
WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO
BE DIFFICULT.

THE JAPANESE
DEVELOPED ONE
DURING THE WAR...

...SO YOU CAN BET IT
MUST'VE HAD SOME
OTHER, **NASTIER**
APPLICATIONS BESIDES
COMMUNICATIONS--

HEY! WHAT
HAPPENED
TO STEVE?

"STEVE?"
"STEVE" GOT
BEAMED IN THAT
ROCKSLIDE.

DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE A
CONCUSSION--HIS
PUPILS AREN'T DILATED.
BUT I DIDN'T
EVEN HAVE **CLEAN**
CLOTH TO DRESS
THE WOUND.

NOTHING
I COULD DO
BUT PROP
HIM UP.

C'MON--
I HAVE AN
IDEA.

SO, YOU WERE
SAYING...?

RIGHT, WELL...A
JAP LZD WAS
TRANSPORTING ONE
OF THE GENERATOR
PROTOTYPES TO
LUZON LATE IN
'44--BUT IT
NEVER MADE IT.

OUR INTELLIGENCE
REPORTS INDICATED
THAT THE PLANE WAS
LOST WITHIN A
100-MILE RADIUS
OF MOUNT MARAPI...

...BUT AIR
RECONNAISSANCE
AFTER THE OCCUPATION
COULDN'T TURN UP A
TRACE.

THE WORD
GOT OUT THAT
THE GENERATOR
WAS OUT THERE
SOMEWHERE--

--AND THAT A
SURVIVING **AXIS**
FIFTH COLUMN
HAS PLACED A
HEFTY BOUNTY
ON ITS RECOVERY.

SO, GIVEN
THE POSSIBLE
COMPETITION,
YOU SET UP AN
ELABORATE
COVER--

"UH-HUH--OUR
"REFUELING STOP"
HERE ON OUR WAY
TO SRI LANKA.
OUR CRASH ON
TAKE-OFF WAS
STAGED AS PART
OF THAT COVER.

"WHO WOULD SUSPECT
A DEAD CREW OF
BEING OUT THERE,
COMBING THE SWAMP
FOR THAT GENERATOR?"



WE WERE
WORKING WITH
THE CO-OPERATION
OF THE DUTCH
PROVISIONAL
GOVERNMENT...

...WHICH
FALSIFIED,
THEN SEALED, THE
REPORT ON THEIR
"INVESTIGATION"
...AND FILED A
RULING OF PILOT
ERROR.

YEAH--
THAT PART
OF THE STORY
CHECKED OUT.



AN AWFUL
LOT OF TROUBLE
TO GO TO, FOR A
PIECE OF HARDWARE.
IT MUST BE PLENTY
VALUABLE...

YOU DON'T
KNOW THE HALF
OF IT. NEITHER
DO I, FOR THAT
MATTER.



BUT THE SCUTTLEBUTT
IS, THE CHROME-DOMES
IN WASHINGTON THINK
IT'S POTENTIALLY AS
POWERFUL--AND DANGEROUS
--AS THE A-BOMB.

BUT,
OBVIOUSLY,
SECURITY WAS
COMPROMISED.
WHAT WENT
WRONG?

WE DIDN'T
KNOW ABOUT
VAN DER
HOUDEN.



"IF HE REALLY IS
PROVISIONAL
GOVERNOR OF
THIS DISTRICT,
HE MUST HAVE
CONTACTS IN HIGH
PLACES. MAYBE
HE GOT WIND
OF WHY WE
WERE HERE.



"HIS BOYS
PICKED US
UP IN THE
SWAMP."

AND EVER SINCE, HE'S BEEN REFUSING TO BELIEVE THAT YOU DON'T ALREADY KNOW WHERE THIS THING IS...?

RIGHT.

IF WE'D FOUND IT, WE WERE SUPPOSED TO MAKE OUR WAY BY RAIL DOWN TO TELUKBETUNG.

I FIGURED THAT WHEN WE DIDN'T RENDEZVOUS WITH OUR CONTACTS THERE, THEY'D SEND A TEAM IN AFTER US... AND I GUESS YOU AND "LESLIE" WERE IT.

AND THIS TIME, THEY FIGURED THE BEST WAY TO GET IN...

...WAS WITH A CREW THAT HAD NO IDEA WHAT THE REAL PURPOSE OF THE EXPEDITION WAS.

IGNORANT CIVILIANS WHO'D BE CONSIDERED EXPENDABLE.

BUT A CREW LIKE YOURS--

--WITH DISTINGUISHED COMBAT RECORDS AND SOME EXPERIENCE WITH COVERT OPERATIONS DURING THE WAR--WHO COULD PROBABLY HOLD THEIR OWN IF THINGS GOT UGLY.

THOSE BASTARDS.

HERE WE ARE. I'LL TAKE A QUICK DIP AND WASH OFF THREE WEEKS WORTH OF HANGING AROUND THIS DUMP...

...AND WE'LL HAVE SOME FRESHLY-WASHED CLOTHES WE CAN RIP UP INTO BANDAGES FOR STEVE.

I... AH... THINK WE'D BETTER JUST... GO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM TILL DAYBREAK.

SUIT YOURSELF. BUT I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE TILL I'M CLEANED UP.

AND SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT...

...NEITHER ARE YOU.

WHILE, ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF
MT. MARAPI:

"WHAT DID YOU MEAN
BEFORE--ABOUT THE
ODDS AGAINST OUR
GETTING OUT OF HERE
ALIVE?"

"NOT NOW, JAN. I HAVE
HIGH HOPES FOR THE
MOOD WE'RE BUILDING HERE
...AND YOU'RE SPOILING IT."

HERE?

WHY NOT? LIKE
WE'RE NOT
ALREADY LIVING
DANGEROUSLY?

YOU GOT A
POINT THERE.
IT'S JUST...WHAT
IF WE DO COME
OUT OF THIS
ALIVE?

WON'T THIS
SNAFU THINGS
WITH YOUR
HUSBAND?

DON'T WORRY
--THAT'S NOT A
PROBLEM. YOU'LL JUST
HAVE TO TRUST
ME ON THAT.

AND YOU
DO TRUST
ME, DON'T
YOU?

EVEN IF
I DIDN'T...
SISTER, I'M
IN NO POSITION
TO ARGUE
WITH YOU.

PROBABLY
NOT... BUT
I LIKE THE
POSITION
YOU'RE IN...

NEXT
WEEK:

HOT, HOT, HOT

